

JANUARY

1954

Hobbies

The Magazine For Collectors



Timepieces of Yesteryear
(See page 85)

HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

1006 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois

O. C. LIGHTNER, Founder (1887-1950)

JANUARY, 1954 Vol. 58, Number 11

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HOBBIES is indexed monthly in the Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, which is available in most libraries.

Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

U. S. and Spain Banks

By F. H. GRIFFITH



Mechanical banks, as with other types of collectible items, can be grouped or classified into specialized divisions. One of these groups which is rather small in number is the cannon and fort type. Among these we come to No. 26 in our numerical classification, namely the U. S. And Spain Bank.

The group of banks which utilize a cannon in their action also fit in with the shooting type such as the Sportsman's Bank, Teddy And The Bear, and others. It's also well to mention that certain of the banks in the different groupings also can be placed in an overall historical group.

The U. S. And Spain Bank is a cannon type bank, of course, and is also historical in its connection with the Spanish-American War. It is not the rarest of the cannon type banks as the Octagonal Fort, for example, is somewhat rarer. However, it is much more desirable from all other standpoints, including action, appearance, and theme. And of course it is rare and hard to find.

The bank was patented July 12, 1898, by Charles Bailey and made by the Stevens Company of Cromwell, Conn. It was covered by a design patent which is not the usual case with the majority of the patented banks.

The specimen shown is in general good condition with

a small piece broken from the base end where the hammer recedes into the base. It was obtained some years ago through the good help of Dr. Arthur E. Corb New York City. The bank is painted in appropriate colors. The cannon has a black barrel and the base which it is mounted is grey with the lettering "U. S. gold. The fort is unusual in that it has a natural appearance. This was achieved by the use of sand, off-color white paint on the fort was either dipped sand or sprinkled with it while still wet or tacky. The top flat surface of the fort is painted green to simulate grass. The Spanish ship has the lettering "Spain" white, the hull is black and the mast and turret are and brown. All cannons on the Spanish ship are hats and the Spanish flag and the ocean are painted natural colors.

The bank operates as follows: The coin is placed pictured in front of the mast on the ship, then a wooden type shell is placed in the barrel of the cannon. The hammer on the cannon is then pulled down and the lever to fire the cannon appears at the side. When the lever is pressed the hammer shoots the shell forward making a direct hit on the mast knocking it over backward.

uses the coin to drop automatically into the bank. To repeat the action the mast is simply raised into position, and proceed as described. If more realistic action is desired, the cannon is made so that it will fire paper caps.

If you are collecting mechanical banks in the overall group, or the specialized subject group, or historical class, the U. S. And Spain Bank fits into all three and is a very desirable item in any one or all of them.

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Do You Remember?

By E. E. MEREDITH

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When half a dozen celluloid collars would last a man a lifetime?

When every home had a pantry large enough to hold a barrel of flour?

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When carnivals were called "street fairs" and the location was on the street?

When a "full-fledged" motorist had experienced a broken arm when cranking his car?

When the high point of the party was the adjournment to the kitchen to pull taffy?

MECHANICAL ANTIQUES WANTED

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PLEASE NOTE my mechanical bank display ad in this section, listing various wants.—F. H. Griffith, collector, 171 Lebanon Ave., Mt. Lebanon, Pittsburgh, Pa. tfr

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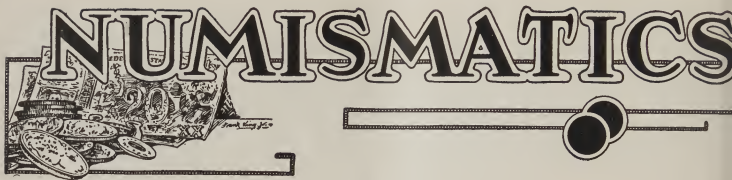
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Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE CONDITION OF COINS

THE LINCOLN CENT

All coins have certain high spots in their designs which are the first to show signs of wear, no matter how slightly. A coin classified as uncirculated cannot have any of these evidences. The trend by many has been to overlook this slight wear and "stretch a point" because the coin is so near uncirculated. Many feel that it is a shame to knock the value of a coin in half and sometimes more simply because of its being in circulation a few days.

In the case of a Lincoln cent, the first sign of wear appears on the cheekbone, hairlock above the ear and beard at the side of the chin. As wear progresses, the shoulder and lapel are next to show it. The reverse first shows wear in the wreaths, the center of the feathers indicating it first. The earliest evidence is a slight discoloration, a lightening of the metal which later progresses into actual wear. For a Lincoln cent to be in "fine" condition Lincoln's ear on the obverse must be clearly evident. Lincoln cents can be cleverly cleaned but examination of the spots will give this fact away if the coin is not really uncirculated. A well cleaned Lincoln cent does not usually retain its revived lustre, usually tarnishing to an unpleasant color in a matter of a few weeks. During the 1920's many of the Branch mint Lincoln cents were struck so defectively as to appear blurred, not sharp. While this is a detraction, and should be mentioned, it does not necessarily take such a coin out of the uncirculated class.

THE JEFFERSON NICKEL

Jefferson's cheekbone and the hair directly over the ear are the first to wear; on the reverse, the portuculis below the dome of Monticello wears first. To determine a truly

uncirculated specimen of these one must watch for tiny minute-like scratches on the field, tiny hairlike nicks on the edge of the coin. The mint lustre of a Jefferson nickel is the first thing to go and this must also be watched. Should the coin show wear to the extent that the wear spot has spread from the forehead and eyebrow down to the cheekbone and thence up through the hair to the top of the head; and then have wear that blends together the collar and shoulder of his suit and on the reverse, have wear to the extent that it completely obliterates the extreme left lower window of Monticello the coin cannot be considered "fine."

THE ROOSEVELT DIME

The hair on the temple just above and before the ear first shows wear as do the highlights of the ear. On the reverse the base of the torch followed rapidly by the details of the flame disappears; next the spine of both topmost leaves disappears. Not many Roosevelt dimes have appeared in conditions inferior to fine.

THE WASHINGTON QUARTER

The locks of hair just before and behind the ear first wear, followed by the hair at the start of the temple and forehead. On the reverse, the feathers on the eagle's breast are very lightly struck and disappear first. A fine specimen can have the above wear but not to the extent that the lock in front of the ear is obliterated, or that one cannot tell the hairline at the temple. On the reverse there should be a slight difference between the eagle's breast and legs, should not be a solid blur.

THE BUFFALO NICKEL

Uncirculated condition in Buffalo nickels is very difficult to determine due to the worn appearance they have, even when new. The highlight on the obverse is the hair just above

the Indian's braids; on the reverse the shoulder of the Buffalo. Both of these were smooth when coined. To detect the slightest amount of use one must examine these smooth highlights for tiny hairlike scratches also examine the edges of the coin for minute nicks and scratches. It is advisable that Buffalo nickels have their original glossy mint bloom.

A fine specimen should have a reasonably sharp date, and the large feather in the Indian's hair should be distinguishable for its entire length. On the reverse the "horn" on the head should be clear.

MERCURY DIMES.

The lower part of the wing of Mercury's headress near the ear wears rapidly. As wear progresses it spreads upward along the line of hair at the forehead, and down around the hairline at the neck. The fasses on the reverse first shows wear on the verticle lines just about opposite E Pluribus Unum. For these to be "fine" the line of hair must be clearly defined from the cheek and forehead and on the reverse a bands tying the fasses together must be clearly visible.

LIBERTY STANDING QUARTERS

First signs of wear appear directly at and slightly above the knee of Liberty. It starts by making her knee look ever so slightly flattened. The bars in the banner of the shield as well as her left breast and side face go next but this cannot be used as absolute evidence of wear, for many of these quarters were struck lightly here, particularly her side face. Many are known that are absolutely uncirculated but Miss Liberty's face is smooth. This fact should be mentioned if it is the case with your coin, for this defect reduces the value of it. Wear first appears on the reverse on the eagle's breast just below the forward part of the right wing, and on the leading edge

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PG-9	3 18th Century coins of EUROPE	1.00
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B-5	3 19th Century silver coins of BOLIVIA	1.00
B-6	2 coins of BRAZIL (Republic)	1.00
B-4	5 19th Century coins of BRAZIL	1.00
B-3	4 coins of BRITISH WEST AFRICA	1.00
B-6	2 coins of BRITISH WEST AFRICA issued for Edward VIII	1.00
C-5	2 coins of CANADA (19th Century)	1.00
C-6	5 coins of CANADA (19th Century)	1.00
C-1	2 coins of CAYMAN (19th Century)	1.00
C-2	7 coins of CHINA	1.00
C-11	3 silver coins of CHINA	1.00
C-10	4 coins of CHINA over 100 years old	1.00
C-8	5 coins of COLUMBIA	1.00
C-5	1 silver coin of COLUMBIA	1.00
C-4	2 coins of COSTA RICA	1.00
C-13	2 coins of CUBA	1.00
C-2	4 coins of CUBA (Veslingland Antilles)	1.00
C-1	5 coins of CZECHOSLOVAKIA	1.00
D-1	10 coins of DENMARK	1.00
E-2	4 coins of EAST AFRICA	1.00
E-3	2 coins of EAST AFRICA issued for Edward VIII	1.00
E-5	4 coins of ECUADOR	1.00
E-1	1 coin of EGYPT (independent)	1.00
E-4	5 coins of EGYPT (Turkish)	1.00
F-1	5 coins of FINLAND	1.00
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G-2	5 coins of GREAT BRITAIN (18th Century)	1.00
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G-3	3 18th Century tokens of GREAT BRITAIN	1.00
G-4	2 19th Century (or earlier) communion tokens of GREAT BRITAIN and SCOTLAND	1.00
G-7	2 19th Century hop tokens of GREAT BRITAIN	1.00
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I-3	4 coins of the INDIAN STATES	1.00
I-6	5 coins of IRAQ	1.00
I-5	5 coins of IRISH FREE STATE	1.00
J-1	10 coins of ITALY	1.00
J-2	5 coins of JAMAICA	1.00
L-1	7 coins of JAPAN	1.00
L-2	5 coins of JAPAN	1.00
M-3	5 coins of KENYA	1.00
M-1	10 coins of LUXEMBURG	1.00
M-2	4 coins of MALAYA	1.00
M-3	10 coins of MEXICO	1.00
M-4	4 coins of MONACO	1.00
M-2	5 coins of MOROCCO	1.00
N-1	10 coins of the NETHERLANDS	1.00
N-2	3 silver coins of NEW ZEALAND	1.00
N-3	7 coins of NORWAY	1.00
P-7	3 coins of PALESTINE	1.00
P-1	5 coins of PANAMA	1.00
P-8	2 coins of PAPAL STATES (19th Century or earlier)	1.00
P-4	5 coins of PARAGUAY	1.00
P-5	5 coins of PERU	1.00
P-3	4 coins of PHILIPPINES	1.00
P-6	4 coins of POLAND	1.00
R-1	5 coins of PORTUGAL	1.00
R-2	5 coins of RUSSIA (U.S.S.R.)	1.00
R-1	7 coins of RUSSIA (Empire)	1.00
S-1	2 coins of SIAM	1.00
S-2	2 19th Century Gambling Tokens of SIAM	1.00
S-3	5 coins of SOUTH AFRICA	1.00
S-1	5 coins of SPAIN	1.00
S-2	7 coins of SWEDEN	1.00
S-3	7 coins of SWITZERLAND	1.00
S-8	4 coins of the Cantons of SWITZERLAND (over 100 years old)	1.00
S-7	4 coins of SYRIA	1.00
T-3	3 coins of TUNIS	1.00
T-2	5 coins of TURK (Republic)	1.00
T-1	5 coins of TURKEY (Empire)	1.00
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Y-1	5 coins of YUGOSLAVIA	1.00
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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

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Question:

Could you please tell me the value, if any, of a coin, copper, of Constantinus I A.D. 306-337, struck in London, I am told.

L. T., New Jersey

Answer:

The coin is valued at one dollar.

C. F., New York

Question:

Could you tell me the prices on the following coins: (A) One penny bank token from bank of Upper Canada; (B) French 10 francs piece, 1949; (C) 1853 coin from France, Napoleon III Empereur on one side and Empire Francais, Cinq centimes on the other side with a W under the eagle.

—H. P., Maryland

Answer:

The coins you have are worth from 2c to 5c each.

C. F., New York

Question:

Could you please tell me the money value of the following paper currency?

Ten Dollars: The Confederate States of America, April 6, 1863, No. 22433. Twenty Dollars: The Confederate States of America, April 6, 1863, No. 86066.

Twenty Dollars: The Confederate States of America, September 2, 1861, No. 101717. Ten Dollars: The Confederate States of America, December 2, 1862.

One bill marked Rhode Island on the side, and a big FIVE across center "Farmers Ex. Bank" directly below "Farmers Ex. Bank" is marked Gloucester, Dated May 8, 1808. Looks like an uncashed check. The complete wording on it is, The President Directors and Company of the "Farmers Ex. Bank" promises to pay (A certain Mr. Brown) of bearer on demand FIVE Dollars (V) Gloucester, May 8, 1808. Signed: W. Colwell Cash John Harris—President. This particular piece is in good condition. The rest of the currency is in good legible condition, but torn in spots.

—W. S., Massachusetts

Answer:

Any notes that are torn are of very little value. If your Confederates were in fine condition they would be worth 25c each. The other broken bank bill of Rhode Island is worth 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you please give me the valuation of the coin described below? "Napoleon III Empereur" under the head "Barre". Reverse: Wreath with "A" under it. Inside wreath: 10 Francs 1855. Above wreath: "Empire Francais." Looks like gold.

Is a "Liberty" half dollar 1906 of any value?

—R. E. K., Indiana

Answer:

The French piece you have is gold and valued at \$6.50. The other 1906 half dollar is worth no premium unless it be in uncirculated condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please identify this coin. I realize that it is of no value, yet am curious. It might be an old British cent picturing an early queen or Britannia. Please identify designs on each side and quote inscriptions.

H. P., Michigan

Answer:

Your coin is a penny of George III of England. Obverse has head of George, legend "Die Gra." Reverse, Britannia seated, "Inde et Lib." date below.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you please advise if a large \$5 silver certificate, series of 1899, with picture of Indian Chief on one side, has any premium?

—E. H., Michigan

Answer:

Your large size \$5 bill must be crisp new to demand a premium, then it would be worth about \$6.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Have fallen heir to an old copy of "HOBBIES" and have read the "Quiz Corner".

I would like to ask what is meant by "rubbings," and how made?

—A. E. F., New York

Answer:

To make a pencil rubbing, place the coin under a plain piece of paper and gently rub a soft pencil over the surface.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you advise me the value of Columbian 1893 half dollar, in good condition.

—C. E. S., California

Answer:

It is worth only face value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a half-dime of 1860 and have been told to write you. I also have a number of large one-cent pieces, as follows: 1831-1849-1849. I also have some Confederate money. Please advise me as to values of these.

—W. P. T., Michigan

Answer:

The ordinary, 1860, half dime is not rare. It is worth 15c in good condition. The large cents are valued at 10c each in good condition. Confederate notes up to \$100 denomination are valued at 10c each in fine condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a coin in a silver tray. It is the size of a U.S. silver dollar; the face side it has these words: JOANNES. D. G. Port. Regens; on the center it has a shield and a smaller shield with it; the date is 1817 and the number 99 appears below the date; it has a crown at the top.

The reverse side has these words: NATA STAB. Subq Sign; it has a map the shape of a globe on it with a bar across it, with the letter R. I have six of these trays with money in the center. The outside part of the tray is lace silver with four crowns that match the crowns that appear on the coins.

—K. W., Kentucky

Answer:

The coin you list is a 960 Real piece of John, King of Portugal, which was struck for Brazil. It is not rare, and is valued at about \$1. Your trays, however, must be very attractive.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me what value this coin has tracing of which I have enclosed.

—L. M. H., New York

Answer:

Mexico 8 Reals, valued at 75c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Enclosed find rubbings of coins I picked up in Germany.

Coin has this wording "D. G. x. IOS. U. B. D. S. R. I. A. & L.L." Reverse side "PATRONA VARIAE. 1772.

"ARCHID. AVST DVX. BV. CO. R 1668 Reverse side, "LEO-LDVS. D. G. ROM. IMP. S. A. H. B. R.

"EIN VEREINSTHALER XXX N PFUND FEIN 1865 Reverse side "FREIE STADT FRANK-RT"

would like to know if they have value.

—J. B. G., Iowa

Answer:

Crown of Maximilian Joseph of Maria, 1772, value \$2. Crown of gold, Holy Roman Empire, "Aust." 1668, Value \$3.50. 1865, Frankfurt Thaler, value \$1.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have read your replies in "HOBBIES" for years, and now I have a question about a coin with a story. During the Civil War there were many men who sympathized with the South, and to show their feeling

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reprints, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1825-1885 Wm. H. Mun, 443 E 39th St., Paterson 4, N. J. ap126351

OLD COINS—American and Foreign my personal collection—Ira Nelson, Mattymarch St., Boston, Mass. mh124291

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for gold and rare coins, worthwhile collections—cash payment—John Ziegler, Rt. 2, Mont. Ohio. d122511

WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my collection. Reference: Kanawha Mining & Trust Co.—D. C. Shonk, 802 Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. je45

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar. —A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Weston 27, W. Va. my124291

WANT OLD UNITED STATES COINS. —Romey, Box 291, Bluffton, S. C. je128421

ESTABLISHED DEALER BUYS \$20, \$35, Gold Coins. Ship coins insured. Our remittance forwarded same. —Willard, 5719 Kenmore, Chicago 40 Ia. ja124331

WANTED AMERICAN COINS of any denomination.—J. W. Richards, Hamersburg, Ohio. f6253

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—Harold R. King, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. je123511

WANTED: California Gold Coins for collection. Any denomination, \$4 dollar to 10 dollars. Write—Roy J. Pookin, 3875 Willshire Blvd., Los Angeles 18, California. je6468

ESTABLISHED DEALER BUYS \$20, \$35, gold coins. Ship coins insured. Our remittance forwarded same. —Willard, 5719 Kenmore, Chicago 40 Ia. mh3662

wore on their lapels "copper-head" pins, made of the head of a copper coin. My grandfather served with the New York Volunteers, Co. I, 26th, New York, and on the evening that he was mustered out, he saw a man on the street wearing the copper head pin on his coat. A fight ensued, Grandpa won and got the pin. The crowd that had collected, mostly returning boys in blue, carried him on their shoulders through the cheering crowd. All through the years Grandpa carried the pin in his old black bill-fold. It was given to me recently. Can you tell me its value?

—V. C. B., Wisconsin

Answer:

I print your letter due to its historical interest. I do not believe the "copperhead" pin would come under the category of "Numismatics" however.

—C. F., New York

THE BASTILLE MEDALS

By RAYMOND J. WALKER

The collector of objects of art, including medals, is generally a sentimentalist but not proper against propaganda unless it interferes with the law and order and security which he respects. He deplores violence and revolution which destroy the art and monuments of antiquity. For this and perhaps other reasons, the mementoes of violence and change through war or economics seldom become rarities.

The assignats of the French Revolution and the inflation marks of post World War I Germany seldom appear in numismatic displays in banks. Like old American "broken bank" bills and hard times tokens these mediums of exchange recall times of panic and insecurity. They are skeletons in the closet of banking and capitalism. No one cares to advertise his dirty linen and deliberately raise doubt in the minds of his customers. Times have changed, let by-gones be by-gones, they say, now that bank accounts are protected by insurance.

Yes, it is true, the days of panic, high speculation, huge personal fortunes and high adventure are gone. The true Communist can not be a collector. Anything worth preserving should be in the museums of the state for all the people to enjoy. Of course the relics of the past are generally offensive to the officials of a Communist state and so very little would be displayed for the common view and any mementoes of the past that have value in capitalistic countries are sold there, if the price is right.

The conservative who has the time, leisure and money to collect likewise discriminates against the souvenirs of the proletariat. Among these mementoes of change and revolution are medals commemorating events in the first French Revolution, especially

those celebrating the attack on the Bastille. These are tokens of the end of the divine right of kings and the beginning of a struggle to have the ace of the individual trump the king but as yet fail to eliminate the knave. It was the beginning of a struggle to bring the bottom to the top of society or to mix it so well that no one pea shall be different from another and for a time the right of the individual was lost in the shuffle of the mob. Men were then being exploited by power seeking knaves as they are now

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for sale. All countries.—List for stamp.—Kenneth Lee, 623 Security Bldg., Glendale 2, Calif. a128801

SEND FOR FREE 64-page Illustrated Coin Catalog. I have everything in coins. I publish fine Sale Catalogs of the Coin Collections. These are also sent Free to my Customers. Write me whether you want to buy or sell. It will pay you.—B. Max Mehl, 451 Mehl Building, Fort Worth, Texas. Oldest and largest Coin Firm in the U. S. Established 60 years in the same business; in the same place. ja128064

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COIN COLLECTORS: Send for our free list. — Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. mh124291

1954 COIN valuation handbook, 127 pages, 380 illustrations, clothbound, \$1.25. Cook Books, Jackson 5, Mississippi. f3042

FOR SALE: Genuine Confederate \$1# together with Flag and decal. Send \$1.—Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. f125611

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INDIAN HEAD CENTS, 10 all different \$1, 18, \$2, 26, \$3, 30, \$4. Postpaid.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. aul20361

OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. Free list and prices of current coins I need. —H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. d128041

BRILLIANTIZE your pennies and other coins, no scratching or etching of metal. Send \$1 for directions and complete kit of materials. You will reorder.—Stephenson's, Box 435, Ames, Iowa. mh3464

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS \$5.00, 100 different foreign coins \$4. U. S. Coin Book \$1. —Parker, 1264 Market, San Francisco, Calif. ap806

SPANISH "Pieces-of-Eight" and early French issues bought, sold, or exchanged. —John F. Clow, 128 Nelson St., Kingston, Ontario, Canada. f3633

100 DIFFERENT foreign coins \$2.75. Send for free price list.—Jolie, Box 19A, Rugby, Brooklyn 3, N. Y. f3483

THE MART

Rates: 8c per word;
Larger type 12c per word.

MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Fla. mh120882

ATTENTION DEALERS: Have your stock lists mimeographed. Quick service. Send copy, quotation submitted. Reasonable prices.—Albert Newton, 1008 Perry Highway, Perrysville, Pa. f124451

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or Southwestern State. Books, brochures, letters, diaries, business ledgers, early newspapers, theatre programs, anything else.—Argonaut, 336 Kearny St., San Francisco, Calif. au12502

WANTED: Old correspondence—stamped envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—B. Bail, 1135 du Pont Blvd., Miami, Fla. ap6698

PAPER ITEMS before 1900—cigarette cards, trade cards, scrapbooks, posters, paper toys, catalogues, advertising, valentines, etc.—Woody Gelman, 247 W. 46th St., New York 36, N. Y. jab507

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwears, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 43 Lakewood Dr., Glenview, Ill. n122741

CANES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 43 Lakewood Dr., Glenview, Ill. n122741

WANTED: Old, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—E. M. Salmonsén, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. f3272

ANY MEDICAL CURIO: books, instruments, etc.—J. Koelliker, 1330 East 124th Place, Cleveland 6, Ohio jab694

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. al2828

MAGIC: Accumulations of booklets, programs, circulars, scrapbooks, clippings, advertising cards, before 1900. Send for want list.—Morris N. Young, M. D., 170 Broadway, New York 38, N. Y. f124661

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Illinois. f1222

WANTED: Automobile items, anything pertaining to the auto—cars accessories, literature. Also Americana of all kinds.—B. J. Pollard, 14300 Prairie, Detroit 38, Mich. f6637

GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, coins, stamps, antiquities, numismatics, Ship Cash, "milled"—Simons', 509 Finance Bldg., Cleveland 15, Ohio. Established 1918. Watches, clocks, jewelry, antiques repaired. f3004

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WANTED: BASEBALL Guides, Magazines, Sporting News, record books, World Series Programs, old Baseball Magazine posters, Exhibit cards, candy cards, photos, newspaper pictures of players, scrapbooks, etc. Very highest prices paid.—Al Price, Box 615, Pine Bluff, Arkansas. f3295

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CIGARETTE, tobacco cards. Best prices paid. Submit name of set and issuer.—Walter Corson, 7408 Bulet, Philadelphia, Pa. f3272

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS WANTED.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, Ill. ap12844

WANTED: U. S. Covers: stampless, through 1900, illustrated letters, autographs, documents, valentines, small autographs, handcrafts, Americana, etc. Offer: Fine stamps, covers, many miscellaneous items, cash.—Walter John W. Stine, 321 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. jab325

WANTED: Left handed mustache cup and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Mateer, 437 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. ap6445

SHAVING MUGS: Occupational and sporting designs. Will remit or reply promptly on offer.—Albert Newton, 1008 Perry Hwy., Pittsburgh 37, Pennsylvania. f6806

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WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything pertaining to the old railroads of Colorado.—Koch, 1115 Bryant Ave., New York 59, N. Y. mh3004

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS bought.—G. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. f3422

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran badges wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. f12233

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, magazines, photos, prints, catalogs, letters, stock certificates, or anything on petroleum before 1900. Describe and price.—W. R. Johnson, 416 Wheeler, Ardmore, Oklahoma. f33004

Wanted: Confederate and Southern States Currency, Bonds, Broken Bank Bills, Stamps, U. S. Coins, Large Currency. J. C. Malsby, 1822-C Bankhead Ave. N. W., Atlanta, Ga. f3340

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. al124201

WANTED: Old original photographs, New York City, before 1900. Also, original photographs and stereos of Civil War.—Carl W. Dahlgren, Mountain Lakes, New Jersey. f6445

WANTED: For cylinder phonographs, small horns, reproducers, recorders, catalogs. State price postpaid.—Nugent, 12 North Third, Richmond, Va. mh675

WANTED: Old clocks, parlor, wooden or brass works, cases.—Old Clock Shop, 1427 Hunter St., Harrisburg, Pa. f3403

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelain, figures and plaques.—Topolinger, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. al2698

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owners' occupation and name. Liberal prices.—Fred Patterson, P. O. Box 1730, Atlanta, Georgia. ol28801

WANTED: Old bonds of bankrupt and out-of-existence railroads, trolley companies, bridges and companies any cars and water works. Will pay \$1 each for ones I don't have. Write or send to—Edwin G. Warman, 8 Frankhoever St., Uniontown, Penna. mh6213

ORIENTAL SCROLLS, Pillow books, Spring pictures.—Glechner, 3405 Woodlee Rd., N. W., Washington 16, D. C. f3042

WANTED: Confederate and early U. S. belt buckles and buttons.—C. E. Ardinger, 128 N. Franklin, Lancaster, Pa. f3272

CONFEDERATE: Southern states, broken bank notes. Collections or lots. Good prices paid.—Harry Harris, 509, Culpeper, Virginia. f3832

WANTED: Old or unusual camera. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. f3882

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GHOST TOWN ITEMS: Sun-colored glass, amethyst to royal purple; ghost railroad material, ticked and lined, odd items from camps of the 60's. Write your interest.—Box 64, Smith, Nevada. ap12681

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RIPLEY'S "Believe It or Not." My collection of 21 years, over 7,400 cartoons, all neatly bound in 21 good binders; each cartoon mounted on pure white binder paper. For sale for best offer.—Box A.S. V.C. c/o HOBBIES, 1006 S. Michigan, Chicago, Ill. f3421

KANSANS, WERE YOUR Forebears in Kansas in 1887? Write for list of pictures of private homes, business houses, colleges and county maps, to Jay Needham, 1006 S. Michigan Street, Topeka, Kan. (Son of Alberta Daniels Needham, born 1880, Phillipsburg, Kansas.) f3226

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NETSUKES, Manju, old buttons (rare pictorials) Approvals mailed. Collections purchased.—Joseph A. Staven, 777 Madison Ave., New York 17. f12111

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EARRING SCREWBACKS, metal. (for buttons, crochet, shells, etc.) 50c doz., \$2.25 gross. Dangle or drop earrings, 35c doz., \$2.50 gross. Silvered or gold-plated "Hard Water" 50 for 35c. Everything sent postpaid by return mail and satisfaction guaranteed.—Samuel Folsom, 11 Oakland St., Medford 35, Mass. f30121

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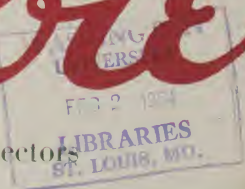
WANTED: To do quilting, aprons, all kinds needlework articles. Delicious canned chicken, wild berries, other foods. Illustrated circular. Shop agents wanted. - Vera Fulton, Box H. Gallipolis, Ohio. 13274

FEBRUARY

1954

Hobbies

The Magazine For Collectors



Valentines of Yesteryear

HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

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HOBBIES is indexed monthly in the Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature, which is available in most libraries

Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

Rhode Island's Bank Collectors' Club

Probably one of the most exclusive collectors' organizations in the world is the Antique Bank Collectors' Club of Rhode Island. A feature story in the Providence Sunday Journal of January 3, by Robert L. Wheeler with pictures by John P. Callahan, tells of the club and the activities of its members.

According to author Wheeler the club has nine regular members. In order to obtain a membership one has to own a minimum of five mechanical banks of the vintage when thrift in children was encouraged by gifts of banks which performed tricks by placing pennies in the slots. Or one can have a membership if he owns a minimum of twenty-five "still" banks. The stills have no mechanical action, and were made in great varieties and numbers by yesterday's manufacturers. They are therefore more plentiful than the mechanical action, banks.

The club holds four meetings a year. It was at a recent meeting that author Robert L. Wheeler obtained data on the collectors themselves and the objects of their avid hobby pursuit, whom we quote, in part:

"DeForest W. Abel, president of the Automobile Mutual Company of Providence, was host in his home at the recent meeting. Two other company presidents, Edwin M. Caldwell, Jr. (Caldwell Motors Company, West Warwick) and W. W. Yando (Braided Rugs and Specialties Company, Pawtucket); a man in the building materials business, Oliver I. Clark; an attorney, Edward T. Richards (Edwards & Angell), and a stock clerk at Central High School, Rudolph A. Salvatore.

"Also a banker, Frederick L. Macalister, assistant manager of the Slater branch of the Industrial Trust. Another banker, Rupert C. Thompson, president of the Union National Bank of Providence, couldn't make it. Neither could Donald B. Derby, president of the U. S. Finishing Company, Norwich, Conn., and the collectors' only out-of-state member. There are two honorary members, F. L. Ball of Cambridge, Mass., dean of dealers in mechanical banks, and Andrew Emerine, Fostoria, an internationally known collector.

"Lawyer Richards is president of the Antique Bank Collectors of Rhode Island and Stock Clerk Salvatore is secretary - treasurer. After talking mechanical banks for about so long the collectors lunched on chicken sandwiches and pumpkin pie and then went back and talked mechanical banks some more.

"This reporter mentioned the light-house bank he owned when he was a boy to one of the Collectors and the latter said yes, he had a chance to acquire one once, a lady who was using it for a table decoration of-

fered it to him for free if he would rent her apartment. They couldn't come to terms.

"The history of mechanical toys goes back a long way. When you come right down to it, what was Friar Roger Bacon's talking skull but one? And of course there were the cathedral clock jacks of medieval times, the little figures that came out when the hours struck, and jerkily gestured. The Robot was with us long before the play R.U.R. gave him a name. But it remained for the New England Yankee to originate a type of toy that performed for a penny, presumably to inculcate habits of saving and giving you action for your money.

"Still penny banks made their appearance fairly early in the history of the Republic. The first large penny pieces were issued by the U. S. Treasury in 1793, and before long there were penny banks of wood and clay for the youngsters to stack the occasional copper. Some of them were made of glass. And sometimes the penny bank was just a gourd with a slit in it.

"In 1869, however, a certain John Hall, a citizen of Watertown, Mass., devised a penny bank that made saving fun. He invented the patented 'Hall's Excelsior Bank,' a rather simple affair, just a little cast-iron box with a bell and cupola. But when you pulled the bell, something interesting happened. Up flipped the roof of the cupola and up popped a monkey who accepted your penny—and down-popped. He would do this as many times as you could wring pennies from papa.

"Mr. Hall's ingenious incitement to thrift was an instant success and he promptly put it into production. Hundreds were manufactured and a new industry was born.

F. L. BALL

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NUMISMATICS



Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

The silver tetradrachm of the ancient city of Athens, one of the leading cities of ancient Greece is one of the most attractively designed pieces of the Greek series. The obverse has a beautiful head of Athena upon it, and the well known owl upon the reverse. The industry of the ancient Greeks, the honesty in weight and fineness of the coins rapidly made them acceptable throughout the Mediterranean world. These interesting coins are found wherever the Greeks traveled and traded.

The Phoenicians were great sailors and shrewd business men and established confidence in the coins they used by counter-stamping them with their famous "Bull" of Phoenicia. This "Bull" was an enforcement to all of fineness and fair weight. Therefore, a tetradrachm of the little known city of Aspendus inland in Asia Minor, could become acceptable as "good" money throughout the Ancient World.

With the phenomenal rise to power of Alexander the Great of Macedon we find the first coins with the head of a ruler replacing that of a deity. Under his influence, his tetradrachms circulated throughout the entire civilized world and first influenced many more backward people to adopt coins as a medium of exchange.

A very similar coin to the Macedonian one was the tetradrachm or Ptolemy I of Egypt, the similarity of design can easily be seen by comparison. This is also the case of the tetradrachm of Antiochus of Syria. Reverse designs differed, however, some using the eagle as is the case of the Egyptian tetradrachm. Seated deities became common as a reverse design for other parts of the Ancient World, a direct copy of Alexander's piece.

With the coming of ancient Rome into power, the art and beauty of

Roman coins suffered a setback. While tetradrachms were in use in the Roman colonies, a new and smaller coin became the main coin of Rome proper. The Denarius was to be the principal medium of exchange for many centuries, and while, it became debased and degraded as time went on, the early ones were of fine silver. During the Republican era, the right to strike coins was awarded to many families and noblemen and their names usually appear on the reverse. The X frequently appears on the obverse and indicates the denomination such as Denarius. The helmeted head of Roma usually appears on the obverse, the reverse designs being several. The Dioscuri was the earliest, followed by such varieties as Diana or Victory driving a Biga, Jupiter or Apollo driving a Quadriga. With the coming of Imperial Rome the heads of the rulers were used in place of Apollo and reverse designs became many and varied.

With the arrival of the Middle Ages the world was in a turmoil of awakening from the dark ages, religious upheavals, discoveries of the new world causing the coins of many powers to go down in history as evidences of their historic greatness. The crown of the early days of England is a beautiful coin and represents one of the first attempts at improving methods of coining. The crown sized pieces of the time are much larger and more beautiful than the small poorly struck coins of the dark ages. France's Ecu of her famous Louis' ran hand in hand in popularity with her gold "Louis D'or" of the times. Spain's famous "Pieces of Eight" struck both in Spain and in her wealthy American Colonies have become immortalized together with her gold "Doubloons" because of their romantic background.

In Germany the religious upheaval started by Martin Luther was commemorated a hundred years later, in 1630 by the striking of a thaler in his honor, and the Catholic popes of the Vatican issued coins to circulate throughout the Catholic world. The Teutonic order of Knights dates its beginning at the time of the third Crusade and was of considerable influence during the Middle Ages under the Holy Roman Empire. They were one of the main fighting organizations of the school of northern chivalry and defenders of Christianity against the heathens, and they helped stop the flow of the eastern hordes then attempting to migrate into Europe. Their thaler or crown of 1603 is a beautiful coin which depicts one of their knights in all of his glory and trappings.

Dupre's Libertas Americana medal of 1776, struck both in silver and bronze, is attributed as being the forerunner in design of our earliest medal. By comparing this beautiful medal with the early half cents of 1793, we find that Liberty facing left and the liberty cap off the head are almost identical in design. While close identity was not for long, changes in design show this medal's influence for many years. These medals are quite rare. Our mint did not strike many gold coins during the first days of our country but when they did, they produced fine specimens. The ten dollar gold piece of 1799 has almost the look of a proof and today has become quite rare. The attractive Liberty head on the obverse is augmented in beauty by the eagle upon the reverse. The double eagle, first coined in quantity in 1850, was an attempt to answer the needs for a large gold coin needed in the west. This beautiful coin in proof condition is very rare and the series were struck until

the banking act, 1933 put an end to the striking of all gold coins.

While proof coins were first struck for availability to the collector in 1858 a few proofs are known to have been struck prior to that time, even earlier than 1800. The most popular proofs of today are the present series that were started in 1936.

A proof coin must not be confused with one of regular issue for they are coined upon polished planchets, with polished dies and struck by hand with great care to insure perfect specimens. They are issued each year by the mint and are available at the mint only during the year of issue. At the present time the cost of a set of proofs consisting of a half, quarter, dime, nickel and cent is \$2.10 postpaid at the mint, and they come carefully wrapped individually in tarnish proof tissue. After a year is over, proofs have risen rapidly in value and those with small issues have become quite expensive, due to their scarcity and the increasing demand. Collectors like to make a complete set of these, including all dates, and the rarity can easily be seen when, in 1936 only 3,800 odd sets were coined, and in 1952, nearly 82,000 sets were coined. It means that there can only be 3,800 odd complete collections of proof sets with tens of thousands of collectors trying to complete such a series. It is easily understandable why the first year is so rare and high in value. The Mint coins us many proof sets each year as are ordered and the constant rise in numbers indicates a consistently growing market for this series.

The Art of Numismatics is indeed an interesting one for it covers all ages, and parts of the history of the Human Race.

See our many values on the inside back cover of this issue.

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE 125)

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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis.

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enclose 10c to defray costs.



Question:

Here is a rubbing of a copper or brass coin I have. It is crudely stamped out of a strip, and shows where it was broken off from the parent metal on one side. I would appreciate your advice as to what it is.

My hobby is military history of the Middle Ages and in connection with it, I would like to know if I might be able to obtain a few coins - especially from the period 1066 to about 1350, English coins preferably. Would they be very expensive to acquire?

—J. F. P., Ohio

Answer:

The coin is nineteenth century Palestine, of very little value as they are quite common.

Coins from 1066 to 1350 can be purchased from coin dealers. They do not have to be expensive, perhaps a few dollars for the more common ones.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have an 1861 bank note. Does it have value?

—G. M., Conn.

Answer:

Your bank note is worth about 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have enjoyed your information. From time to time questions have come up regarding coins and their collecting, and usually I have found my answer in your column. Since I am not a dyed-in-the-wool coin collector I haven't the extreme interest that people of that sort do have. On the other hand there is a question that has come up in my mind recently regarding coins and I'd like to have your views.

I'd like to know about commemorative coins struck in the U.S. mint. How does it happen that one of these coins or rather a set of these coins were struck in only 8003 pieces at each of the three mints? How was that number decided upon? How would a layman be able to find out in advance that such were going to be struck? Could I purchase from the mint a set of these or would I have to wait until dealers had them

in stock and purchase from them? Would more than one set be allowed (assuming that they could be purchased directly from the mints)?

Possibly you have an article answering my questions or maybe even an article to be published in the future that will answer all of these questions. If you have I'd appreciate knowing about it.

—J. D. H., Washington

Answer:

The number of commemorative coins to be struck is decided upon by the commission. The number to be struck is usually announced in the Numismatic section of HOBBIES, also the name of the distributors and the price. They are never sold at the mint.

—C. F., New York

Question:

According to HOBBIES, a Tercentenary of New York half dollar is to be issued. Would you please advise from whom I can obtain these coins? By this, I mean the original source.

—W. V., Ohio

Answer:

The distributors of the New York half dollar has not been announced as yet.

—C. F., New York

Question:

1. I have in my possession several \$2 paper bills - series of 1928D, signed by Julian and Morgenthau, Jr. Would these bills have any premium value today?

2. Also have a "One Palestine Pound" note on the Anglo-Palestine Bank Limited signed by Hoofien and Barth. Does this have any value?

3. I have a Russian coin, rubbing of which is enclosed, with bust of Catherine II on one side and on the other side is the Russian equivalent of "ruble - money" and, I believe, the date 1786.

4. I am enclosing the rubbing of another commemorative piece or something which I can best describe as follows:

on side 1: the outer edge is divided into four parts, the letters "SUBQ" are in one part; "SIGN" in another; "NATA" in another and "STAB" in the other. I cannot quite make out what the main design in the center is supposed to be.

on side 2: A coat of arms of some sort with the date 1816 being separated by a crown. On one side of the shield are the figures "960" and on the other side are three floral designs, one under the other. The letters around the top edge as near as I can make out are: "PORT P REGENS LIBRAS D JOANNES D G."

In your column in the October issue a L. W. T. in Georgia has described a gold coin with wording on it a little similar to the last item I listed, however, my coin is not gold but is of silver or of a silver-colored metal.

—M. C. M., Georgia

Answer:

The \$2 bill of 1928D is worth a premium if in crisp new unfolded condition only.

The Russian ruble is worth \$1.50.

The other coin is a 960 Reis coin of Portugal of King John usually used in Brazil under their reign Value \$1.00.

The Palestine note would have to be seen to determine whether it is still redeemable.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please advise me if the following have any numismatic value:

Federal Reserve Note Series of 1934A, The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, Calif., Hawaii, Denomination each note \$20.00. Both contain the number 12. On the one it is above the word Hawaii with the letter D to its right and 12 also appears below the Hawaii. On the other the 12 is above and below Hawaii to the left of the word with the letter F above the word Hawaii as it appears on the left side of the note. Hawaii also appears on the right side of the note with the same numbers and letter in a slightly different position. The picture of Jackson is on each note with a brown seal on the right. A picture of the White House and the word Hawaii in large letters on the back. Serial Numbers L69908710A, L78319164A. Both of these notes have been in circulation.

—C. S. P., Pa.

Answer:

Your \$20.00 bill is worth face value each.

—C. F., New York

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Question:

In your magazine "HOBBIES" of December 1953, you have an article about the commemorative half dollar for the Tercentenary of New York. I would like to know when it will be available, what the price will be, and where I can send for it? I would also wish to know how many different commemorative half dollars are minted each year.

—E. M., Ill.

Answer:

The commission for the New York Tercentenary has not announced when the commemorative will be released or for what price. There is no set rule for the number of commemorative issued each year. Depends on Congress and the number of bills passed.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to know the value of these pieces (rubblings enclosed), also the value of Japanese Tempo money.

—K. E. O., Michigan

Answer:

Enclosed are your pencil rubbings with values written next to them. Japanese Tempo money is worth about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please advise me of the value of the following coins:

Indian Head penny 1891, 1902 and 1895; half dime 1853; Canadian 5c 1913; Columbia half dollar 1893, Columbia half dollar; One cent 1818, 1844 and 1882; Canadian one cent 1859.

—Mrs. S. H., New York

Answer:

Your Indian head cents are worth 2c each; half dime 1853 10c; Canadian 5c face value; Columbian half face value; large cents 1818-1844, about 20c; 1859 Canadian cent 2c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please let me know the value of these coins:

Liberty head nickels 1902 - 1903; Liberty head dime 1915; Liberty head quarter 1907; Liberty head half dollar 1907; Indian head pennies 1905-1888. Also please let me know the value of the others on slip of paper.

—Mrs. H. M., Maryland

Answer:

Liberty head nickels, dimes and quarters and halves are worth no premium unless they are in uncirculated condition. Indian heads of your years 20c each. The French 5 cent \$1, the 1809 half cent 50c, the no date cent 1c, the 1853 3 cent 10c and the 1853 half dime 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Can you tell me, please, if the coin here shown (a rubbing) was minted in England during the 17th

century protectorate of Cromwell? What was its value then? What is its value to collectors now? What was its official name? Was it ever called a scruple?

—Wm. G. H., New Hampshire

Answer:

I regret that I cannot read your pencil rubbing, however, I do not think it is English and I never heard of any denomination called a scruple.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What is the value of 1908 and 1909 one-cent pieces?

We have a piece a little larger than a silver dollar with Washington's face on one side with "George Washington First President of the United States 1789" printed around it and on the other side are the figures of three men with the imprint around them: "Centennial Anniversary of his Inauguration New York, April 30, 1889." What, if any, are values of this piece.

—Mrs. J. W. P., Idaho

Answer:

The 1908 and 1909 cents in ordinary condition are worth 2c each. The other is a medal worth 25 to 50 cents.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me the value of these coins, all U. S. copper cents: 1 - 1817, 1 - 1843, 1851, 1845, 1 - 1835, 1 - 1850 and 1852 all in fair condition and same markings. Also one dated 1806 with Liberty head turned to right (others are left) and word Liberty is not on head but above it and the figures 100 are below the head. This coin is worn but date and words are plainly discernible.

—O. W. D., Indiana

Answer:

Your 1806 Large Cent Fair is worth about 50c, the others in fair condition are worth about 10c each.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to know the value of the coins of which I send rubbings, and if Lincoln pennies of 1909 having the designer's initials, VDB, have any more than penny value.

—C. F. J., Illinois

Answer:

Your 1863 Indian Head cent is worth 5c, 1858 half 75c, 1858 cent 10c

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to know the value of this coin (rubbing enclosed) and what makes the date on same (1629) forged or hammered?

—E. F. H., Pa.

Answer:

It is a hammered coin known as the three Brothers Thaler of Saxony. Worth about \$6.00

—C. F., New York

Question:

As a subscriber to HOBBIES I take the liberty of writing to you concerning a Mexican dollar that has been in my family for 100 years or more.

Enclosed is a rubbing, obverse & reverse, the coin is holed, and hung on a buckskin thong around the necks of all the children in my great grandfather's family.

He was a blacksmith & horseshoer by trade, and had a shop in Bloomington, Ill. Abe Lincoln was one of his customers and close friends.

In the early days if one wanted all the latest news, he just dropped around to the local blacksmith shop. It was a natural thing, as the settlers streaming west or coming back from the west left news behind them at these points.

It was on one of these occasions that a lone rider putting up for the night at great grandfather's house, paid for his bed and board and his critter's oats and hay with this Mexican eight Real piece, all the money he had on his person, so he said.

My great grandfather drilled a hole in said coin and promptly put it to good use as a teething piece.

The date is rather faint from 1834 on as you can see by the rubbing; please define the letters and figures.

—C. H. R., Illinois

Answer:

Mostly of sentimental value, because holed coins are not much desired by numismatists.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have the following coin—Constantine The Great, commemorative, dated 320 A.D. I have been told that this coin is probably the rarest in the world today. I would like your opinion. It is bronze, size of U. S. dime.

—J. H. S., Missouri

Answer:

Constantine's coins are not overly rare.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a four dollar bill, Continental currency, which has been in our family for a number of years, and am wondering if it possesses any value, face or otherwise. It is not in good condition, but quite legible, and reads as follows: "Four Dollars" "This bill entitles the Bearer to receive Four Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to a Resolution of Congress, dated at Philadelphia, November 19, 1775." I have been advised that the bill is quite rare. It bears two signatures, and a seal.

—Mrs. J. G. H., New York

Answer:

The note has no redemption value and in the condition you mention reduces its value to about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a dollar bill series 1899, Act of Aug. 4, 1886 (in small print) and it has a picture of Lincoln and Grant at the bottom of the bill. In the middle of the bill there is an eagle, under that is the wording "ONE SILVER DOLLAR." The treasurer of the U. S. was Frank White.

—D. A. M., New York

Answer:

Only worth a premium in crisp new condition.

—C. F., New York

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reporters, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1896-1885—Wm. H. Dullstin, 443 E 39th St., Paterson 4, N. J. ap126351

GOLD COINS—American and Foreign for my personal collection.—Ira Nelson, 50 Batterymarch St., Boston, Mass. mh124201

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for gold coins, rare coins, worthwhile collections. Prompt payment.—John Ziegler, Rt. 2, Fremont, Ohio. d122611

WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my private collection. Reference: Kanawha Banking & Trust Co.—D. C. Shonk, 802 Kan. Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. je45

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar.—A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Charleston 27, W. Va. my124201

I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS. Lst. 10c.—Romey, Box 291, Bluffton, Indiana. d124421

WANTED AMERICAN COINS of any denomination.—J. W. Richards, Hamersville, Ohio. f6253

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—Harold L. Bowen, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. d123511

WANTED: California Gold Coins for my collection. Any denomination, \$4 dollar to 50 dollars. Write.—Roy J. Pooklin, M. D. 3875 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 6, California. je4648

ESTABLISHED DEALER BUYS \$20, \$10, \$5, gold coins. Ship coins insured mail. Our remittance forwarded same day.—Willard, 5719 Kenmore, Chicago 40, Illinois. mh3652

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for sale all countries.—List for stamp.—Kenneth Lee, 522 Security Bldg., Glendale 2, Calif. #1238501

SEND FOR FREE 64-page illustrated Catalog I have everything in catalog. I publish fine Sale Catalogs of fine Coin Collections. These are also sent Free to my Customers. Write me whether you want to buy or sell. I will pay you.—B. Max Mehl, 451 Mehl Building, Fort Worth, Texas. Oldest and largest Coin Firm in the U. S. Established 50 years in the same business. In the same place. d123064

U. S. COINS, bought and sold. Will appreciate your want list of date of coins wanted in the U. S. series from Half Cents to gold pieces.—W. O. White, 419 S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y. ap2611

An Old Bank Note With a Rare Vignette

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 121)

All of the issued and signed Piscataqua Exchange Bank Notes have been redeemed in gold and silver coins of the United States, as far as known.

The notes were superb specimens of the engraving of that period. The ten dollar (\$10.00) Piscataqua Exchange Bank Note, by the Banknote Engraving Company namely "Toppan, Carpenter & Co., Philadelphia, New York & Boston" printed in the eighteenth forties, is an extremely interesting and rare note.

LARGE AND CHOICE stock of U. S. coins. Lincoln cents to halves. Send for price list No. 3. — A. Mandel, Box 1189, Church St. Station, N. Y. C. 8, New York. f3694

COIN COLLECTORS: Send for our free list. — Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. mh124201

1954 COIN valuation handbook, 127 pages, 380 illustrations, clothbound, \$1.25. Cook Coins, Jackson 5, Mississippi. f3042

FOR SALE: Genuine Confederate \$10 together with Flag and decal. Send \$1. — Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. f12551

INDIAN HEAD CENTS, 10 all different \$1, 18, 22, 25, \$3, 30, 44. Postpaid.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. au120351

OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. Free list and prices of current coins I need. —H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. d128041

BRILLIANTIZE your pennies and other coins, no scratching or etching of metal. Send \$1 for directions and complete kit of materials. You will reorder.—Stein's, Box 435, Ames, Iowa. mh3464

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS \$5.00. 100 different foreign coins \$4. U. S. Coin Book \$1. — Parker, 1254 Market, San Francisco, Calif. ap5806

SPANISH "Pieces-of-Eight" and early French issues bought, sold, or exchanged. —John F. Clow, 128 Nelson St., Kingston, Ontario, Canada. f3633

100 DIFFERENT foreign coins \$2.75. Send for free price list. Jolly, Box 124, Rugby, Brooklyn 3, N. Y. f3483

MANY TYPES of United States coins for sale. List free for stamp.—The Odd Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Ind. ap3403

FIRST TIME in numismatic history—nine different condition values. Just received 1954 coin books, \$1.10.—Bill the Coin Man, Elkhart, Indiana. ap3633

FOR UNIQUE COLLECTIONS: Elizabeth G., 10 coins \$4.50, S. Rhodes \$2, S. Africa, 9 coins \$4.50, N. Zealand, 8 coins \$10, 3 diff. crowns \$6.50.—Don's Coin & Stamp Ex., 221 N. Washington Ave., Cookeville, Tennessee. ap327

LINCOLN CENTS: 1909-S, very good, 90c; 1909-S, V.D.B., new, \$1.10; ex. fine, \$2.50; very fine, \$2; 1909, V.D.B. 5c; 1914-S, 1910, 1913, 1915, 1916, 1921, S.D. very good, 15c; 1911, 1912, S.D. very good 20c; 1922-D, very good, 25c; 1924-D, fine, 50c; 1931-S, fine, 75c; 1930-S, unc., 25c; 1943-S, unc., 7c; 1908-S, Indian, new, 35c; 1908-S, almost fine, \$2.75; 1923, 1924, 1925-S, very good, 15c. Orders under \$5 enclose 10c postage.—Mrs. Lane K. Larson, 116 So. Benton St., Kennewick, Washington. f1487

Description of this note: One large X on the center, bearing portraits of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th Presidents of the United States, namely: George Washington (1789-1797); John Adams (1797-1801); Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809); James Madison (1809-1817); James Monroe (1817-1825); John Quincy Adams (1825-1829); Andrew Jackson (1829-1837); Martin Van Buren (1837-1841); William H. Harrison (1841-1845); James K. Polk (1845-1849). Medallion portrait of Washington, on upper right center (same portrait of Washington as used on the United States stamps). Medallion portrait of Franklin, on upper left center. Miniature American eagle on lower center. Shipbuilding scene on right. Allegorical figure and shield on left. Ten on the four corners of the note. Evidently the note was issued after James K. Polk was elected tenth President of the United States, in 1845.

The Piscataqua Exchange Bank was succeeded by the First National Bank of Portsmouth, N. H., Charter No. 19, chartered July 2nd, 1863, for nineteen years to May 1, 1882, when it was re-chartered, with Charter No. 2672.

AMENDED

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 13, 1913, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (TITLE 39, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 233.) of HOBBIES, published monthly at Chicago, Ill., for Oct. 1953.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager.

Publisher, Lightner Publishing Corp., 1006 S. Michigan, Chicago 5, (Estate of Otto C. Lightner, Pearl Ann Reeder, Executrix, 1006 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.)

Editor, Pearl Ann Reeder, 1006 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

Managing editor, None.

Business Manager, A. J. Leonard, 1006 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

2. The owner is: Lightner Publishing Corp., 1006 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago. (Estate of Otto C. Lightner, Pearl Ann Reeder, Executrix, 1006 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 5, Ill.)

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders, owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

(Signed) A. J. Leonard, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of December, 1953. (Seal)

Pearl Ann Reeder, Notary Public. My commission expires Dec. 15, 1956.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES
8c per word; the month for the price of 2; twelve months for the price of 10 (Except for change in address, no changes permitted on the low three and twelve month rate.)

THE MART

Rates: 8c per word;
Larger type 12c per word.

MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 96th St., Miami Shores, Fla. mh120382

ATTENTION DEALERS: Have your stock lists mimeographed. Quick service. Send copy, quotation submitted. Reasonable prices.—Albert Newton, 1008 Perry Highway, Perryville, Pa. (12445)

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or southwestern State. Books, broadsides, letters, diaries, business ledgers, early newspapers, travel programs, etc. Also misc. — Argonaut, 336 Acacia St., San Jose, Calif. (12445)

WANTED: Old correspondence—stamped envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—B. Ball, 1135 du Pont Circle, Miami, Fla. ap6598

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, such as ax, axes, leather boots, trumpets, helmets, alarm signals, etc. Wanted for equipping old fire hall.—Jack C. Fuchs, E-1st National Bank Bldg., St. Paul, Minnesota. (11042)

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations, give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. (112741)

CANES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. (112741)

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—L. A. Salmonson, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Ill. (12722)

GEORGIA MAGAZINES, bound or loose numbers before 1875.—James Lurwood, 1393 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga. ap3652

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. (12698)

MAGIC: Accumulations of booklets, programs, circulars, scrapbooks, clippings, advertising cards, before 1890. Send for want list.—Morris N. Young, M. D., 170 Broadway, New York 38, N. Y. (124461)

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Illinois. (12442)

WANTED: Automobile items, anything pertaining to the auto era—cars accessories, literature. Also Americana of all kinds.—B. J. Pollard, 14300 Prairie, Detroit 33, Mich. (16637)

GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, coins, stamps, antiques, mercury, valuables. Ship! Cash advanced.—Simon A. 509 Finance Bldg., Cleveland 16, Ohio. Established 1918. Watches, clocks, jewelry, antiques repaired. (13004)

CIGARETTE, TOBACCO, candy cards. Advertising or value by tobacco companies.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pennsylvania. (12698)

WANTED: BASEBALL Guides, Magazines, Sporting News, record books, World Series Programs, old Baseball Magazine posters, Exhibit cards, candy cards, photos, newspaper pictures of players, scrapbooks, etc. Very highest prices paid.—Al Price, Box 615, Pine Bluff, Arkansas. (13295)

COLLECTOR WANTS, scrap-books, baseball items, tobacco, trade cards, and old playing cards.—Ben Isaacson, 45 John St., New York 38, New York. (13663)

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards. Best prices paid. Submit name of sets and issuer.—Walter Corson, 7408 Buist, Philadelphia, Pa. (13712)

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS WANTED.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, Ill. ap12344

Urgently wanted: Unusual old photos and prints of wedding parties; no brides & attendants; comic "just married" stuff. Good prices paid for any I can use. Submit to Dr. Larry Freeman, Century House, Watkins Glen, N. Y. (12324)

WANTED: Left handed mustache cup and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Minter, 137 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. ap6445

WEATHERVANES: Wood or metal, with or without signals. Send outline drawing to Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3023

OLD STAMPS WANTED. I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 1c green Franklin D. Roosevelt, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 each unused). Send for large illustrated folders showing amazing prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon Baker, (H-54) Elyria, Ohio, Advertiser in HOBBIES since 1931. mh3027

WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything pertaining to the old railroads of Colorado.—C. L. 115 Bryant Ave., New York 59, N. Y. mh3004

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS bought.—G. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. (13422)

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran badges wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. (123238)

CANES: Sword, dagger, rapier and gun canes only, fair prices, describe fully.—F. Bolton, 1074 Colleton Dr., Sarasota, Fla. (11651)

Wanted: Confederate and Southern States Currency, Bonds, Broken Bank Bills, Stamps, U. S. Coins, Large Currency.—J. C. Malsby, 1822-C Bankhead Ave. N. W., Atlanta, Ga. (13846)

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. (1214201)

WANTED: Old original photographs, New York City, before 1900. Also, original photographs and stereos of Civil War.—Carl W. Dahlberg, Mountain Lake, New Jersey. (16445)

WANTED: For cylinder phonographs, small horns, reproducers, recorders, etc. Also. State price postpaid.—Nugent, 12 North Third, Richmond, Va. (126775)

WANTED: Old clocks, parts, etc. wooden or brass works, cases.—Old Clock Shop, 1427 Hunter St., Harrisburg, Pa. (13403)

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, pendants, figures and plaques.—Ben Weisner, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. (12698)

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owners' occupation and name. Liberal prices.—G. Patterson, P. O. Box 1730, Atlanta, Georgia. (128801)

WANTED: Old bonds of bankrupt and out-of-business railroads, trolley companies, bridges, land companies and gas and water works. Will pay \$1 each for ones I don't have. Write or send to: Edwin G. Farnham, 8 Frankhoveer St., Uniontown, Penna. (126131)

ORIENTAL SCROLLS. Pillow books. Spring pictures.—Gibner, 3406 Woodley Rd., N. W., Washington 16, D. C. (13042)

WANTED: Confederate and early U. S. belt buckles and buttons.—C. E. Ardinger, 125 N. Franklin, Lancaster, Pa. (13272)

CONFEDERATE: Southern states, broken bank notes. Collections or lots. Good prices paid.—Harry Harris, Box 509, Culpeper, Virginia. (13832)

WANTED: Old or unusual cameras. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—V. E. Musik, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. (126382)

WOOD CARVINGS: Eagles, Indiana, whirligigs, decoys, statues, animals.—Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3652

LIONS: Pair, at least 4 feet long, marble, brass or iron.—Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3648

COLLIER'S WEEKLY, Oct. 9, 1915. Also J. C. Leyendecker, drawing, 1910. White, 1201 W. 8th, Cincinnati 8, Ohio. (12372)

WANTED: U. S. stamped or stampless postmarked folded letters or envelopes (covers) before 1900, illustrated letters, stamps, early Valentines, autographs, documents, other Americana.—John V. Stine, 821 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. (123084)

FOR SALE

CIGARETTE & Tobacco Cards. Send for my lists.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pa. ap12238

GHOST TOWN ITEMS: Sun-colored glass, amethyst to royal purple; ghost town material. Tickets! Limited offer. Items from camps of the 60's. Write your interest.—Box 64, Smith, Nevada. (1216551)

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RIPLEY'S "Believe It or Not." My collection of 21 years, over 7,400 cartoons, all neatly bound in 21 good binders; each cartoon mounted on pure white binder paper. For sale for best offer.—Box A.S. V.C. c/o HOBBIES, 1006 S. Michigan, Chicago. (13427)

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EARRING SCREWBACKS, metal, (for buttons, crochet, shells, etc.) 30¢ doz., \$2.25 gross. Dangle or drop earbacks, 35¢ doz., \$2.50 gross. Silvered or golden. Sterling silver for pierced ears, 15¢ pr. Pinbacks with safety catch, 1/4", \$2.50, 1/2", \$2.65, 1", \$2.75, 1 1/4", \$3 gross; all 35¢ doz. Cement 15¢. Earring cards imprinted, "Hand Made" 50 for 35¢. Everything sent postpaid by return mail and satisfaction guaranteed.—Samuel Folsom, 11 Oakland St., Medford 55, Mass. (White Island prices on request). mh3521

300 ADDRESS LABELS in gift box. Attractive, colorful, practical. 15 different colors. Only \$1.—Joel T. Proctor, Vermont mh122511

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TEN TONS of stamps, covers, match covers, miscellaneous collections of all kinds, \$5,000, 20 years to pay, No interest. Guaranteed worth at least \$20,000. Allyn T. Cleaves, Hillaboro Hotel, Jacksonville, Fla. f3065

STATUES. Life size, Metal, Beautiful female figures of four seasons. Original pieces.—Glocher, 3405 Woodley Rd., N.W., Washington 16, D. C. f3633

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Three fine Southern Civil War notes, prepaid, \$1. Confederate bonds, \$2.50.—Harry Harris, Box 509, Culpeper, Va. f3804

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COLLECTOR'S CURIO catalogue: 543 Illustrations. Nazi-Japanese war relics, souvenirs, decorations, firearms, edged weapons, insignia, native relics, 50c coin.—Babin, 324 H Court, Rochester, New York. j66238

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MYSTIFY your friends. Have them scent Guess Who cards, 50c each, coin or P. D. money order.—Capitolia Sea, 2401 North West 27th Street, Fort Worth, Texas. jai22971

CONEY ISLAND SEA SHELLS 55.—John Auliero, 446 Crown Street, Brooklyn, New York. f1021

The Eternal Perfume

By DOROTHY TUDOR HARRELL

*All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand.
Macbeth Act. V.*

In the Arabian desert is an oasis lying like an emerald in the ocean of sand. Rank tropical vegetation blooms on this island, and in its center is a large, deep lake. Its waters are the color of ink, and it gives off a peculiar perfume.

According to the legend, the waters of this lake were once clear as crystal, and there was no perfume except that sweet intense and almost suffocating odor of the flowers.

On its shores stood a white temple of strange design, and the morning sun rose on a mighty encampment, whose tents covered the desert. A veil of mist rose from the lake, and here and there an Arab stood with his face to the East. As the sun rose higher there was a mighty stir among the people.

The caravan had come a long way to worship the far-famed idol, the sick and blind hoping to be healed, sitting for days on the hot sand offering their prayers.

The emir himself had come bringing his camels laden with gold and jewels.

A line of priests clad in scarlet and gold robes came down in slow procession and filled the vases with the crystal waters of the lake. At the blast of a trumpet from the temple, groups of young girls came dancing around the white temple of their god. At the discordant clash of rude instruments, the people gathered to worship the image.

The emir came down from his throne, which was buried in flowers and waving banners to where the palm trees made a pavilion. At the second blast of the trumpet, the girls ceased their dancing and the great doors of the temple moved back, disclosing a great, white shrine.

MANY old handpainted French, German plates and cups. Very reasonable. Huntzler for prices.—Jesse Brown, 727 S. 10th Street, Minneapolis, Minn. f1861

FOUNTAIN: Handsome 3-tier, cast iron. Seven feet tall. Cattail motif. Picture on request.—Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3253

FROM SCOTLAND: Clan Tartan purses, handbags, dolls, pincushions, needlework bags, handkerchiefs. Send \$1 for sample. Free list. Beautiful handpainted English brochures, 75c.—Highland Industries, Box 214, Osceola, B. C., Canada. ap3084

500 GUMMED, 1/2" x 2 1/4" labels, printed three lines, 50c, extra lines, 75c.—Huntzler, Box 725-XC, Minneapolis, Minn. ap3652

Like a demon of darkness, stood a huge, black stone figure, mounted on a car. Its hideous face, the heavy black arms held out for sacrifice, and the clumsy black feet were tarnished by the hands of many worshippers.

Brilliant colored sashes and garlands of flowers bedecked the rough-cut head and shoulders. Blue, green, red and purple lights shot from the precious stones that ornamented the wheels and sides of the car on which the image stood. This was Jandi, the idol.

Before its presence the crowd fell with their faces to the ground and every sound was hushed. Suddenly a far-off rumble of drums fell on the ears of the kneeling worshippers. Instantly a terrified cry ran through the crowd, "the Turks, the Turks." Every man sprang to his feet and the spears and lances glittered in the sun, even brighter than the jewels on Jandi's car.

Down from the north they came, a whole army at full gallop, and the Arabs helplessly crowded around the idol calling for its mercy and protection. But the stone figure remained silent and the Arabs, with the name of Jandi on their lips, fought hard advancing and falling back. Despite their efforts, however, they fell captives, and the stone image slowly drawn by war horses across the blood-stained ground, stood relentless. At the edge of the lake, the Arabs made a final struggle to save it, but the Turks drove them back and pushed Jandi in. Down, down, into the crystal lake he sank. As his hideous features began to disappear, a cloud of mist rose about him, and the lake began to grow darker, and darker until it became as black as ebony, and a strange odor arose and grew stronger as the water changed color. This mystery terrified the Turks and they fled, dropping their spears and lances. The Arabs were again left alone, believing that Jandi had saved them.

The explanation given by authorities for this miracle is that the peculiar stone of which the idol was made dissolved in the desert waters, turned them black and produced the eternal perfume, which grew sweeter than the fragrance of the flowers, and drifted like an everlasting censor over the sacrifice.

HANDICRAFTS

WANTED: To do quilting, aprons, all kinds needlework articles. Delicious canned chicken, wild berries, other foods. Illustrated circular. Shop agents wanted.—Vera Fulton, Box H, Gallipolis, Ohio. f3274

Hobbies

The Magazine For Collectors



Old Shaving Mugs with Early Motor Car Designs
(See page 99)

HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

1006 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois

O. C. LIGHTNER, *Founder* (1887-1950)

MARCH, 1954

Vol. 59, Number 1

\$3.50 per year in U. S.; (\$4 in Canada, \$4.50 in foreign countries)

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

Butting Ram Bank

A small group of the mechanical banks employ the use of a goat or ram in connection with the coin being deposited in the bank. Among these we come to No. 27 in our numerical classification of the mechanical banks, namely the Butting Ram Bank.

The subject bank is often called the Bucking Ram, Bucking Goat, and various other names. However, the figure on the bank is a ram, not a goat and also he butts the tree. There is no action of bucking. The best accepted name, therefore, is the Butting Ram. Often to further identify the bank the terminology 'Man Thumbs Nose' is added. This can be included or not as the individual chooses, however it is not necessary as there is no other mechanical bank to date that employs a ram butting a tree.

The bank was designed and patented by Mr. O. O. Storie, of Burlington, Wisconsin, under Patent No. 548,672 dated October 29, 1895. Apparently this is the only bank patented by Mr. Storie. To the best of the writer's knowledge the circumstances surrounding the place and name of the manufacturer is not known. The bank shown is in general good condition with no repairs and entirely original. It was obtained through the good help of Mr. E. L. Romey of Bluffton, Indiana.

It is painted in appropriate colors. The tree is an off-color brown and the base with its upright background is green. The boy's shoes, trousers and hair are black. His hat is yellow and his coat light green. The ram is off-color white with black horns. The opening in the tree stump is yellow. Inscribed on the back of the bank is the following: Pat. Oct. 29, 1895. This is in the form of handwritten printing rather than the usual type of printing or lettering.

The bank operates as follows: First a coin is placed in the position as shown in the picture, at the opening in the tree stump. The lever located by the tree is then pressed and the ram butts forward knocking the coin into the bank with his head. At the same time the boy's torso leans backward and he raises his right hand to his nose, thumbing his nose at the ram who had just missed him. The bank automatically resets itself for action upon releasing the lever.

There are several points of interest about this bank. One is that the writer has never seen a specimen in so-called mint paint condition. They all seem to have a varnish-type finish over the paint. The bank does not clean very well because of this. Another unusual feature is the fact that there is no way to properly remove the coins from the bank once they are deposited. The base bottom of the bank has a round type coin trap cast into the metal. However it is part of the base itself and cannot be removed. This is located under the tree stump and obviously it was meant to give the impression of being an actual operative coin trap. Another point is that the bank is riveted together so the only way coins can be removed is by shaking them out through the opening in the tree stump.

The number of Butting Ram Banks in private collections so far is very limited. A contributing factor to its rarity and desirability to a collector, of course, is the subject theme of the bank. There are three banks that employ the action of a figure thumbing his nose and this is the second one covered so far in the articles. The other two are the Freedman's Bank and the Pelican.

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NUMISMATICS



Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

Valuable collections of coins sometimes turn up in estates. When this occurs, those handling their disposal are apt to be confronted with something of which they know little, or nothing about. The hobby of numismatics is highly specialized, and while there are numerous books giving values, one must have an excellent knowledge of the subject to read them properly.

As an example, let me analyze the cents of 1864. There were three major types struck that year, the copper nickel variety which is not very rare, the bronze cent which is very common and the bronze cent with the initial "L" on the ribbon behind the headress. The latter is quite rare. This letter "L" coin is very difficult to find. Even though this 1864 with "L" is rare, its value is determined by its condition. If it is what numismatists call "good"—a coin that has wear but upon which everything can be easily read—its "catalog" value would be \$6. If it is "uncirculated", just like the day of its issue with original red, its catalog would be \$32.50. If it were a "Proof", a perfect coin with mirror-like surface, specially coined for collectors, it would catalog for \$175.00. We therefore have a variance in value, in one rare coin of from \$6 to \$175. It must also be born in mind that coins do not always sell for their full catalog value. The amount of discount below catalog is determined by supply, demand, quantity offered, and whether they are being sold to a collector or a dealer.

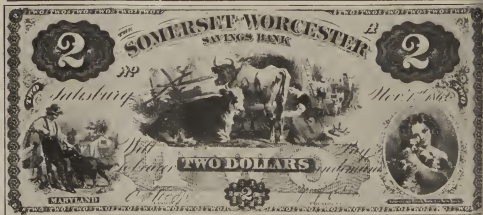
Sometimes a large quantity of one coin turns up and should it be a rare one, can materially affect the market. For instance, suppose one found a ten dollar roll of 1919 San Francisco Mint half dollars, put away the year of issue, in brilliant uncirculated condition. These cata-

log, in this condition at \$250 each. A roll of twenty such coins would have a catalog value of \$5000. To offer them all at once, or to one party would have the affect of reducing their value. It would be like dumping large blocks of stock on the market. The coin market, is very much like the stock market in some ways. The 1919 S half dollar in 1940 only cataloged at \$10, but it has risen to \$250, only because of the absence of many being offered for sale.

Those unacquainted with coins should never jump to the conclusion that, because a coin is old it is of value, or the reverse. Coins of more recent years are, for the most part, worth far more than those of over a century old. Coins that we have been used to seeing in circulation for the last quarter of a century may be commonplace to us, but may be the rarest of all. With these, condition again must be considered. Some of us can think back to the days of World War I, and shortly thereafter and remember our comments that the then fairly new Liberty Standing quarters had such light dates. Some even looked nearly worn off when they came right from the mint! The dates on those quarters from 1916 through 1923 were very lightly

struck, and they did wear off, until today you won't find very many readable in circulation. If you found half a dozen of these in an old box together with other coins all black and tarnished but with careful scrutiny unused, it very likely would be your tendency to pass them out into circulation as current money. If you did you'd be throwing away a very handsome profit for some varieties of these, particularly the branch mints, catalog very high. The highest is the 1916 Liberty Standing quarter at \$100 in uncirculated condition. We do not know why, but nickels, quarters and half dollars of this era, in uncirculated condition are extremely scarce and very hard to come by.

There is a tendency to dispose of coin collections in haste or in bulk. Secure bids from several dealers and let the highest bidder have the lot. This is not, in my opinion the manner to get the highest price, however. Dealers purchasing for cash must count on their profit, and in buying in this manner, have to take the good with the bad. All dealers figure approximately the same, and usually the bids received will be very close, but they are wholesale values and have to be under the circumstances.



It might be hard to contact the real market for it would virtually go into the coin business becoming a dealer, selling the pieces piece by piece over a period of time and then having some left over so no one would want at your asking price.

Many remarkable coin collections have been made in this country in the 19th century. Some have been bequeathed to historical museums and thus taken off the market permanently. The majority, however, have been disposed of through auction or private sales. Well advertised national sales that reach every dealer and collector in the country, cataloged by experts so that every coin described accurately, printed in catalogs that are an exact record, and by both mail and public bid, with a complete record of every lot, have always found that 99% of the material so offered will sell, and what it is really worth. Records are frequently made at auctions on the spot. Auction valuations are one of the major determining factors in determining catalog values. Bargains are also to be found but the overall average realizes one a far better price than when selling out at wholesale, and the costs usually run from 10% to 20% of the sales price. In fact many collections purchased outright for cash are in turn offered for sale at auction.

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2232 CO. \$1.50; 2233 CO. \$1.50; 2234 CO. \$1.50; 2235 CO. \$1.50; 2236 CO. \$1.50; 2237 CO. \$1.50; 2238 CO. \$1.50; 2239 CO. \$1.50; 2240 CO. \$1.50; 2241 CO. \$1.50; 2242 CO. \$1.50; 2243 CO. \$1.50; 2244 CO. \$1.50; 2245 CO. \$1.50; 2246 CO. \$1.50; 2247 CO. \$1.50; 2248 CO. \$1.50; 2249 CO. \$1.50; 2250 CO. \$1.50; 2251 CO. \$1.50; 2252 CO. \$1.50; 2253 CO. \$1.50; 2254 CO. \$1.50; 2255 CO. \$1.50; 2256 CO. \$1.50; 2257 CO. \$1.50; 2258 CO. \$1.50; 2259 CO. \$1.50; 2260 CO. \$1.50; 2261 CO. \$1.50; 2262 CO. \$1.50; 2263 CO. \$1.50; 2264 CO. \$1.50; 2265 CO. \$1.50; 2266 CO. \$1.50; 2267 CO. \$1.50; 2268 CO. \$1.50; 2269 CO. \$1.50; 2270 CO. \$1.50; 2271 CO. \$1.50; 2272 CO. \$1.50; 2273 CO. \$1.50; 2274 CO. \$1.50; 2275 CO. \$1.50; 2276 CO. \$1.50; 2277 CO. \$1.50; 2278 CO. \$1.50; 2279 CO. \$1.50; 2280 CO. \$1.50; 2281 CO. \$1.50; 2282 CO. \$1.50; 2283 CO. \$1.50; 2284 CO. \$1.50; 2285 CO. \$1.50; 2286 CO. \$1.50; 2287 CO. \$1.50; 2288 CO. \$1.50; 2289 CO. \$1.50; 2290 CO. \$1.50; 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2586 CO. \$1.50; 2587 CO. \$1.50; 2588 CO. \$1.50; 2589 CO. \$1.50; 2590 CO. \$1.50; 2591 CO. \$1.50; 2592 CO. \$1.50; 2593 CO. \$1.50; 2594 CO. \$1.50; 2595 CO. \$1.50; 2596 CO. \$1.50; 2597 CO. \$1.50; 2598 CO. \$1.50; 2599 CO. \$1.50; 2600 CO. \$1.50; 2601 CO. \$1.50; 2602 CO. \$1.50; 2603 CO. \$1.50; 2604 CO. \$1.50; 2605 CO. \$1.50; 2606 CO. \$1.50; 2607 CO. \$1.50; 2608 CO. \$1.50; 2609 CO. \$1.50; 2610 CO. \$1.50; 2611 CO. \$1.50; 2612 CO. \$1.50; 2613 CO. \$1.50; 2614 CO. \$1.50; 2615 CO. \$1.50; 2616 CO. \$1.50; 2617 CO. \$1.50; 2618 CO. \$1.50; 2619 CO. \$1.50; 2620 CO. \$1.50; 2621 CO. \$1.50; 2622 CO. \$1.50; 2623 CO. \$1.50; 2624 CO. \$1.50; 2625 CO. \$1.50; 2626 CO. \$1.50; 2627 CO. \$1.50; 2628 CO. \$1.50; 2629 CO. \$1.50; 2630 CO. \$1.50; 2631 CO. \$1.50; 2632 CO. \$1.50; 2633 CO. \$1.50; 2634 CO. \$1.50; 2635 CO. \$1.50; 2636 CO. \$1.50; 2637 CO. \$1.50; 2638 CO. \$1.50; 2639 CO. \$1.50; 2640 CO. \$1.50; 2641 CO. \$1.50; 2642 CO. \$1.50; 2643 CO. \$1.50; 2644 CO. \$1.50; 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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis.

If you wish reply by mail,
enclose 10c to defray costs.



Question:

I have a coin believed to be 2,000 years old, and Roman. A sketch is enclosed.

—A. C., Jr., New York

Answer:

You are correct; it is Roman, medium bronze. I cannot read the inscription to identify the ruler. It is worth about 50c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What are the values of these American bank notes?

1943 One Yuan note (Manchuria)

1938 One Centavo coin (Philippine)

1937 One Cent copper

(Nederlandsche Indee)

1918 100 Rouble Bank note

(New condition)

1898 1 Rouble Bank note U.S.S.R.

1943-44 100, 200 Yuan (China)

The Central Reserve Bank of China 200 Yuan note is famous anti-Japanese propaganda on Chinese paper money concealed letter. U.S.A.C. (United States Army coming.)

What do you think of our prince?

—Y. N., Japan

Answer:

The highest denomination American Bill is a ten thousand dollar bill (\$10,000). We don't ever see these as they are only used for large commercial transactions. The bank notes you have are all no longer redeemable here and consequently of little or no value. I think your prince will make a fine leader for your country.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have an unusual gold coin, same on both sides, Solomon with outstretched arms, sword in one hand and child in other standing on top of globe. The inscription is Pluribus Vult Decepti Deceptat. Translated "Fool the people. The people want to be fooled."

Also I have a small gold coin of the U.S. Mint, Phila., 1832 on one side and the entire Lord's Prayer on the other side.

Any information will be greatly appreciated.

—E. G., Ohio

Answer:

I do not believe your pieces are gold nor are they coins. They are most likely brass tokens or medals.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Thank you for your interesting articles on numismatic matters in HOBBIES. Am glad that you are covering some of the history of our coinage and other facts, as the late Thomas L. Elder did in his articles.

May I add a little to your article; I don't know how many 1856 flying eagle cents were struck, but I do remember some happenings and it could be the year 1907, when the colorful Lyman H. Low, had a coin sale (he sent me a copy of the catalogue) every lot in the sale was 1856 flying eagle cents, and I am quite sure I remember the number of lots, about 2800, and each lot sold for \$5, an excellent price then.

And now as to the collecting of our pattern pieces, I believe it was around the year 1910, when a collector was not legally allowed to have in his possession a U.S. pattern piece. I remember articles, and it was settled for collectors like this: the Officers of the American Numismatic Association had a gentleman's agreement with the U.S. Secret Service, which would allow each member to own a pattern piece for his collection; you see we were all good little boys in those days, the only thing was you had to be a member of the ANA, which I was No. 758 from 1904 to 1924. When this ban was removed I don't know.

—J. F. C., New York

Answer:

It is indeed a pleasure to receive your interesting letter. I guess the exact number of 1856 flying eagle cents will forever be a mystery. The mint records incorporated their number with the 1850 large cents. Adams Woodin, on patterns, list the number of each variety coined other than the copper nickel one which of course is our celebrated rarity. As to this one, he lists 501 and upwards as being the number coined — this is very general.

Rumor still persists that over 1500 of those 2800 lots of 1856 flying eagle cents are still in one spot—and supposedly in Philadelphia, a hoard that today would be fabulous, if they were distributed carefully!

Your interesting information of patterns is new to me and perhaps explains the recent lack of interest in this beautiful series of recent years.

At the recent Empire State Numismatic Association Convention, held in Syracuse, I had the pleasure of again meeting my old friend, that Dean of Numismatics, Mr. George Bauer, now in his eighties and still an ardent collector and dealer.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would greatly appreciate information on the value of the following coins:

1867 Nickel - Shield on dated side and large "5" on reverse side surrounded by thirteen stars.

1870 1/2 dollar - gold piece. "1/2 dollar" and date on one side surrounded by wreath. Reverse side - figure head surrounded by thirteen stars. Good condition.

—M. K., New York

Answer:

The nickel is worth about 10c in used condition. The 1870 California half dollar, is worth about \$3.50 to \$4.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Kindly tell me how much my gold coins are worth (listed).

—I. H., Maine

Answer:

Your gold coins are worth as follows:

\$2.50 1879, fine—\$6.00

\$2.50 1850, fine—6.00

\$5.00 1881, fine—8.00

\$3.00 1862, fine—12.60

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a large, one cent piece, 1948 Liberty head. I have two \$2.50 gold pieces, 1906 and 1908, in best condition. What are they worth?

—Mrs. E. O., Ohio

Answer:

The two \$2.50 pieces are worth \$ each and the 1948 cent is worth 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Can you tell me how valuable this coin is (rubbing enclosed)? The words on the head side are: "De Belges, Leopold II Roi," on tail side "L'Union Fait La Force," Date 1870.

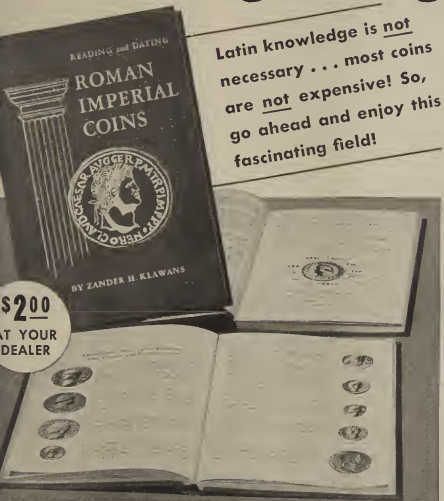
—J. V., Oklahoma

Answer:

The coin you have is a Belgium 5 Franc piece of Leopold II. Its value is \$1.

—C. F., New York

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\$1.75

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Question:

I have been deeply interested in your "Quiz Corner" and would like some information as to the value of the following coins:

Silver Dollar
1800 - 1801 Both very fine condition.
Half Dollar
1825 - 1827 - 1830 - 1836 - 1842 - 1853
rays and arrows - 1854 arrows O
mint - 1856 - 1858 - 1861 - 1862
s mint.

Quarters—1848 - 1853
Dimes
1831 - 1836 - 1856 - 1861 - 1876
Half Dime—1840 - 1858 - 1854

Nickel
1834 - 1867 - 1868 - 1903 Liberty
Three Cent—1866 - 1868 - 1871

Two Cent—1865 - 1866
Large Cent—1850 - 1851 - 1856
Small Cent—1857 - 1858 - 1867

—Mrs. J. H. N., New Jersey

Answer:

Your coins are above average and seem to have come out of an old time collection. With such pieces, their exact condition is the all important determining factor in their value. For instance, the 1862 S mint half dollar, if in fine condition, i.e., slightly worn but not enough as to obliterate the word "Liberty" on the shield below Liberty seated, it would be worth \$2. If it is absolutely brand new just like the day it was coined it would be worth \$10. A very fine 1800 dollar is worth from \$10 to \$25 depending upon variety. The same is so for the 1801. If these turned out to be UNCIRCULATED, they would be worth \$40 or more each.

—C. F., New York

Automobilia on Stamps

(Continued from page 119)

ing to note that our earliest Special Delivery stamp of 1885 pictured a messenger running breathlessly out of a Post Office like a runner in a Marathon race or a citizen pursued by thugs. Three years later the same messenger was on a bicycle, and finally, in 1925, he obtained the more comfortable motor van. Such is the progress of transportation. And Philately tells the story!

To a collection of the above automobile stamps might be added the numerous auto use revenue stamps issued by the Federal government beginning in 1942 to help secure funds to finance the gigantic war effort. Wide awake collectors will start gathering these stamps now before they become increasingly scarce and elusive.

There were five varieties of the automobile use revenue stamps printed in 1942, the first year of their use, and the face value ranged from \$2.09 to 42 cents. They are all gummed on the face so that they can be attached to the windshield. The 1942 issue was printed in light green.

From 1942 to 1943, a total of twelve auto use stamps, rose red in color, were issued, ranging in face value from \$5 to 42 cents. A similar number of these stamps, yellow in color, with the same face value, were printed between 1943 and 1944. There was also a set of twelve such stamps, violet in color, put out the following year. A few more, green and yellowish in color, have been printed this year.

I wonder how many car drivers recognize the unique historical and philatelic value of these adhesives and took proper care of them so that they could be preserved in albums. Some of them sell already for more than \$5 used!

A collection of *Automobilia Americana* can be dressed up nicely with a series of the ornate, illustrative, picture postcards mailed during the time the motor car was in its infancy and childhood. In my own collection, I have a postcard portraying three gay college girls coming home from a football game in 1903, seated in an antique gasoline buggy of the period, steered by a small bent rod instead of a wheel. One of the lovely maidens, wearing a picturesque wide-rimmed Floradora hat with red ostrich feathers, is waving a crimson Harvard pennant!

Another postcard shows a self-propelled surrey with a fringe on top, powered by a smoky, gas combustion engine, rattling by the Chicago Beach Hotel in the early Nineteen Hundreds, when a trip in a motor car was equivalent to a ride in a jet propulsion machine today. Such were the days of "Diamond Jim" and the glorious "Jersey Lily!" I have another picture postcard illustrating love making and romance, circa 1909, in an early automobile which has in the back the old fashioned "mother-in-law seat" Dan Cupid, however, sits smiling in

this seat instead of the dour and traditional mother-in-law.

These cards are indeed colorful reminders of the days gone by when a driver expected punctures and flat tires every ten miles and was astounded if his machine could make twenty miles in one day without complete collapse and disintegration of both vehicle and driver.

Three recent Liberia stamps showing the late President Franklin Roosevelt riding a jeep in North Africa during the war would be a suitable and authentic addition to

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for sale. All countries.—List for stamp.—Kenneth Lee, 623 Security Bldg., Glendale 3, Calif. ap12307

SEND FOR FREE 64-page Illustrated Coin Catalog. I have everything in coins. I publish the State Catalog of fine Coin Collections. These are also sent Free to my Customers. Write me whether you want to buy or sell. I will pay you—B. Max Mehl, 451 Mehl Building, Fort Worth, Texas. Oldest and largest Coin Firm in the U. S. Established 50 years in the same business; in the same place. ja12294

U. S. COINS, bought and sold. Will appreciate your want list of date of coins wanted in the U. S. series from Half Cents to gold pieces.—W. O. White, A. S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y. ap63111

LARGE AND CHOICE stock of U. S. coins, 1¢ to 50¢, to buy or sell. Send for price list No. 4.—A. Mandel, Box 1133, Church St. Station, New York 8, N. Y. my3594

COIN COLLECTORS: Send for our free list. Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. mh124201

FOREIGN COINS. List free.—Odds Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Indiana. my3061

FOR SALE: Genuine Confederate \$1, together with flag and decal. Send \$1.—Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. f123511

INDIAN HEAD CENTS, 10 all different \$1.18, \$2, \$5, \$3.30, \$4. Postpaid.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. al20251

OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. Free list and prices of current coins I need.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. d123041

BRILLIANTIZE your pennies and other coins, no scratching or etching of metal. Send \$1 for directions and complete kit of materials. You will reorder.—Stephenson's, Box 435, Ames, Iowa. mh346

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS \$5.00. 100 different foreign cents \$4. U. S. Coin Book \$1.—Parker, 1254 Market, San Francisco, Calif. ap630

MANY TYPES of United States coins for sale. List free for stamp.—The Odds Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Ind. ap340

FIRST TIME in numismatic history—nine different condition values. Just received 1954 coin books: \$1.10—Bill the Coin Man, Elkhart, Indiana. ap363

FOR UNIQUE COLLECTIONS: Ellis I. sets. G. B. 10 coins \$4.50. S. Rhodesia \$2. S. Africa, 9 coins \$4.50. N. Zealand 8 coins \$10, 3 diff. crowns \$6.50.—Don't Coin & Stamp Ex., 221 N. Washington Ave., Cookeville, Tennessee. ap327

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reporters, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1826-1885.—Wm. H. Dillistin, 443 E 39th St., Paterson 4, N. J. ap123651

GOLD COINS—American and Foreign for my personal collection.—Ira Nelson, 80 Batterymarch St., Boston, Mass. mh124201

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for gold coins, rare coins, worthwhile collections. Prompt payment.—John Ziegler, Rt. 2, Fremont, Ohio. d122511

WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my private collection. Reference: Kanawha Banking & Trust Co.—D. C. Shonk, 802 Kan. Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. ja46

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar.—A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Charleston 27, W. Va. my124201

I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS. List 10c.—Romey, Box 291, Bluffton, Indiana. je12342

WANTED FOR CASH, Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—B. Bowen, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. je122511

WANTED: California Gold Coins for my collection. Any denomination, ¼ dollar to 50 dollars. Write—Roy J. Ponkin, M. D., 3815 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 5, California. je468

ESTABLISHED DEALER BUYS \$20, \$10, \$5, gold coins. Ship coins insured mail. Our remittance forwarded same day.—Willard, 6719 Kenmore, Chicago 40, Illinois. mh3652

collection of *Automobilia Americana*. It would demonstrate very well the very latest, bumpy means of transportation that sometimes proceeded as many casualties as enemy bullets. The jeep, if not the Liberator, is from these United States.

If one desires, of course, he can arch the stamps of the entire World War, and find himself embarked upon most engrossing quest. Among the earliest stamps he would find the tiny heller value issued by Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1906, in a dull violet shade, Scott's 42, showing a very ornate gas buggy of the period.

The 1944 Salvador issues are rather interesting as they show motor cars parked alongside public buildings. Some collectors might like to add to their albums the dark green five pfennig German stamp of 1925 which shows a traffic wheel; stamps showing public highways, or scenic backgrounds might also find a place in such albums.

I find Scott's B 134, which is illustrated in this article, one of the most attractive and unusual stamps dealing with this subject. This dark green stamp, six pfennig plus four pfennig, plays one of the earliest types of automobiles. It was issued by Germany in 1939 in commemoration of the Berlin automobile and motorcycle exhibition. The stamp is watermarked with the swastika. Another value in this set, the bright carmine stamp, shows racing cars, while the twenty-five pfennig plus ten pfennig in deep blue, shows the modern automobile.

I cannot conclude this article without drawing attention to a most entertaining stamp—the Russian five ruble denomination in deep blue and pale blue, issued in 1923 and portraying of all things a Fordson tractor! It was put out in connection with the agricultural exhibit in Moscow, and might easily find a place in a collection of automobilia. It shows at my rate a product put out by a healthy American capitalist pictured as a Russian stamp.

The humble postage stamp, on or off cover, is thus able to recreate for the days gone by. It can commemorate most colorfully the Golden Jubilee of the motor car, and bring back fond recollections of ancient coaches, many of whom have long since been relegated to the junkyard.

There follows a tentative check list of stamps for the guidance of collectors interested in *Automobilia*.

TENTATIVE CHECK LIST FOR COLLECTORS OF AUTOMOBILIA

1. Scott 296. The United States four cent Pan-American in deep red brown and black. This also appears with center inverted. There is also the type overprinted "specimen."
2. Scott B14. The United States twenty cent black Special Delivery.
3. Scott Q7. The United States fifteen cent carmine rose parcel post stamp.
4. Scott E2. The New Zealand special delivery. This six pence stamp in violet shows a delivery car and was issued in 1933.
5. Scott C94. The Salvador twenty centavos air service stamp in dark blue

green shows a car parked in front of the National Theatre, and was issued in 1944.

6. Scott C93. The Salvador fifteen centavos red violet air service stamp of 1944 shows a car parked in front of the Presidential palace.
7. Scott C95. This Salvador dull violet air service stamp of 1944 shows a car parked at the extreme right in front of the National Palace.
8. Scott 42. Bosnia and Herzegovina. The fifty heller stamp in dull violet shows an antique postal motor car. One of the earliest specimens of European automobilia.
9. Scott E2. Bulgaria. 1939. The six leva stamp in copper brown shows a mail motor car. This is a special delivery.
10. Scott Q3. Bulgarina 1941. The three leva dull brown parcel post stamp shows a motor car.
11. Scott A48. Germany. 1925. The five pfennig dark green stamp of the Munich Exhibition issue shows a traffic wheel. This might add interest to the collection.
12. Scott B134. Germany. 1939. The dark green stamp, six pfennig plus four pfennig, shows early types of autos. This is one of the most interesting and attractive stamps dealing with this subject.
13. Scott B135. Germany. 1939. The bright carmine stamp in the twelve pfennig plus eight pfennig value shows racing cars.
14. Scott B136. Germany. 1939. The twenty-five pfennig plus ten pfennig in deep blue shows a modern automobile. The three stamps B134-136 represent the German stamp set which was issued in commemoration of the Berlin Automobile and Motorcycle Exhibition. The surtax was added for Hitler's National Culture Fund. These stamps were all watermarked with the swastika.
15. Scott B141. Germany. 1939. This is the same stamp as B134 showing early types of automobiles in dark green, but is overprinted in black in commemoration of the Nurburgring races held May 21 and July 23, 1939.
16. Scott B142. Germany. 1939. This is the same color and design as B135 showing racing cars but is overprinted in black in commemoration of the Nurburgring races.
17. Scott B143. Germany. 1939. Same color and design as Scott B136, showing modern automobile, but overprinted in black in commemoration of Nurburgring races.
18. Scott B32. Yugoslavia. The two dinar and two dinar deep plum and rose lilac stamp issued in 1939 in commemoration of the centenary of the present postal system in Yugoslavia.
19. Scott B95. Yugoslavia. 1939. The one dinar plus one dinar black, blue green and peacock green stamp shows a racing car. This was issued to commemorate the automobile and motorcycle races held at Belgrade. The surtax was for the race organization and the state treasury.
20. Scott B97. Yugoslavia. 1939. The two dinar plus two dinar stamp in indigo, dark blue and ultramarine was also issued to commemorate the Belgrade races.
21. Scott 244. Russia. This interesting stamp issued in 1923 shows a Fordson tractor which might easily find a place in a collection of automobilia. This was issued in connection with the agricultural exhibit in Moscow and is a five ruble stamp in deep blue and pale blue.
22. Scott 822. Russia. 1940. This sixty kopeck stamp in olive brown is one of the values in the Industrial issue and shows an automobile and planes.

(There are, of course, many other stamps which the interested collector might enjoy looking up).

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

There is given below first day sale figures of the 3-cent Gadsden Purchase commemorative stamp which was released at Tucson, Arizona, on December 30, 1953:

Covers canceled, 363,250; stamps sold, 800,000; value \$24,000.

There is given below first day sale figures of the 3-cent Columbia University commemorative stamp which was released at New York, New York, on January 4, 1954:

Covers canceled, 550,745; stamps sold, 3,638,990; value \$109,169.70.

—O—

Under Temporary Exemption Order issued by the Civil Aeronautics Board to Lake Central Airlines for route AM-88, service will be inaugurated at Lima, Ohio, on Segement 6, on or about March 1, 1954.

Special cachet will be provided for Lima, and the usual treatment of philatelic mail will be authorized.

Persons interested in special slogan cancellations may obtain the following by sending self-addressed stamped envelopes to the appropriate postmaster with the request that the cancellation be applied.

"1954—CENTENNIAL—1954
COOKVILLE, TENN.
100 YEARS OF PROGRESS"
(Cookeville, Tenn.)

From date of receipt through December 31, 1954

"ATLANTIC CITY CENTENNIAL"
1854 - 1954
(Atlantic City, New Jersey)

From date of receipt through December 31, 1954

"CALIFORNIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEEK APRIL 26
VISIT YOUR SCHOOLS"
(San Francisco, California)

Immediately upon receipt through May 1, 1954

"100th ANNIVERSARY
1854 - 1954
ALAMEDA POST OFFICE"
(Alameda, California)

April 18 through April 24, 1954

"1954 CENTRAL 1954
INDIANA'S FIRST
PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL"
(Bloomington, Indiana)

April 4 through April 10, 1954
May 16 through May 22, 1954
and May 30, 1954

"1654 - 1954
300th ANNIVERSARY
NORTHAMPTON, MASS."
(Northampton, Massachusetts)

Immediately upon receipt through June 30, 1954

Foreign

Cuban Airmails. As this is being written, early in February, airmail collectors are looking forward to the issuance of five new airmail issues from Cuba. According to a release the new stamps will be 5c, 8c, 25c, 45c, and \$1.

Leeward Islands Issue. Queen Elizabeth will replace her late father on the new definitives from this country. The denominations are ½c, 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 12c, 24c, 48c, 60c, \$1.20, \$2.40 and \$4.80.

National Park Issues of Japan. Two more parks issues will be released by Japan, thus completing their parks series.

Sweden Sports Issue. Sweden has announced a release of stamps depicting sports. The values will range from 20 Ore to one Krona.

THE MART

Rates: 8c per word;
Larger type 12c per word.

MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 96th St., Miami Shores, Fla. mh120382

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or Southwestern State. Books, broadsides, letters, diaries, business ledgers, early newspapers, theatre programs, sayings, etc.—Argonaut, 336 Kearny St., San Francisco, Calif. au128402

WANTED: Old correspondence—stamped envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—B. Ball, 1135 du Pont Bldg., Miami, Fla. mh120382

GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, DIAMONDS, coins, stamps, antiques, mercury, valuables, Ship Cash armalmed—Simon's, 509 Finance Bldg., Cleveland 15, Ohio. Established 1918. Watches, clocks, jewelry, antiques repaired. mh3004

CIGARETTE, TOBACCO, candy cards. Advertising or issued by tobacco companies.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pennsylvania. mh120382

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

JANES: Must be unusual in design, material, or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—B. M. Salomonson, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. mh3004

GEORGIA MAGAZINES, bound or loose numbers before 1875.—James Larwood, 1383 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga. mh120382

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. mh120382

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Koval, 1846 Culbertson, Chicago, Ill. mh3422

Wanted: Green Beaded Grape glass and cap and ball rifles.—Claude Tucker, Holland, Ind. mh1651

SOUVENIR SPOONS: Foreign enameled or unusual specimens.—Adolph Bruner, 120 Gale Place, Bronx 63, N. Y. mh1021

LONG GENEALOGY, of Michael, a German immigrant who settled in Pennsylvania, his German name was Lange. Name his descendants.—Mrs. J. M. Johnson, 333 So. Euclid Ave., Upland, Cal. mh1232

ARGOSYS, Allstory, other magazines, old time novels; highest prices per magazine or per lb.; \$2 each for copies Thriller Book in good shape.—M. McNeil, 5542 Tilbury, Houston 19, Texas. mh3464

OLD POST CARDS: Will pay average \$2 to \$3 per 500 plus postage.—Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. mh3403

ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—Warshaw, 752 Westend Ave., New York 25, N. Y. mh3023

I BUY magic trick, hocus pocus, and also memory books, pamphlets, etc.—Morris N. Young, M.D., 170 Broadway, Suite 114, New York 38, N. Y. mh3614

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS WANTED.—Moor 3748 Sheffield, Chicago, Ill. mh12844

WANTED: Sterling Zodiac spoons, plated movie art spoons. Write—M. E. Stelling, Box 333, Northside Station, Atlanta, Ga. mh1411

WANTED: Tin tobacco tags. Collector wishes to add to his collection.—E. A. Krug, 18 E. Hanover St., Hanover, Pa. mh3023

WANTED: Left handed Mateer cup and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Mateer, 437 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. ap6445

WEATHERVANES: Wood or metal, with or without signals. Send outline drawing to Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3023

OLD STAMPS WANTED: I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 lc green Franklin stamps, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 each unused). Send for large illustrated folder showing amazing prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon Baker, (1954) Elyria, Ohio. advertiser in HOBBIES since 1931. mh3027

WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything from 10 to the old railroads of Colorado.—Koch, 1115 Bryant Ave., New York 59, N. Y. mh3004

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran badges wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. n12238

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Mary Jane Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. mh120382

WANTED: For cylinder phonographs, small horns, reproducers, recorders, catalogs. State price postpaid.—Nugent, 12 North Third, Richmond, Va. mh6676

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelain, figurines and plaques.—Ben Singer, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. n12698

SHAVING MUGS with picture, ownership, occupation and name. Liberal prices.—Fred Patterson, P. O. Box 170, Atlanta, Georgia. n128801

WANTED: Old bonds of bankrupt and out-of-existence railroads, trolley companies, bridges, land companies and water works. Will pay \$1 each for ones I don't have. Write or send to: J. W. Warner, 8 Frankford St., Uniontown, Penna. mh3027

WANTED: Old or unusual cameras. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. mh6882

WOOD CARVINGS: Eagles, Indians, whirligigs, decoys, statues, figurines, Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3552

LIONS: Pair, at least 4 feet long, marble, bronze or iron.—Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3403

COLLIER'S WEEKLY, Oct. 9, 1915. Also J. C. Leyendecker drawings.—W. White, 1201 W. 8th, Cincinnati 3, Ohio. mh3027

WANTED: U. S. stamped or stampless postmarked folded letters or envelopes (covers) before 1900, illustrated letters, covers, early valentines, old John W. Stine, 821 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. ap3084

ANNUAL PASSES of Indiana railroads before 1900 and other printed items.—M. P. Ganey, 1031 North Penn, Indianapolis 2, Ind. ap3612

LAND GRANTS, deeds wills, correspondence, photos, tintypes, daguerreotypes, family Bibles, birth certificates, marriage certificates in names Carroll, Hazard (Quebec and Carolinas); De Mont (Nova Scotia and New York); De Mont, Colvin, Potter, Dorn, Vanderhoof, Vaniche (New York, Michigan); Allen, Latta, Moore, Neely, Starr (Virginia, Carolinas, Tennessee, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee); Campbell (Perry County, Pennsylvania). Describe item; give price. Address — 2104 B Street, Bakersfield, Calif. mh38001

PAPER ITEMS before 1900—cigarette cards, trade cards, scrapbooks, pamphlets, advertising posters, postcards, catalogs, valentines, or what have you?—Woody Gelman, 247 W. 46th St., New York 36, N. Y. au6299

FOR SALE

CIGARETTE & Tobacco Cards. Send for my lists.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pa. mh120382

SEA SHELLS. Fried catalogue with 1225 illustrations, descriptions from all over the world. Only authentic book of its kind in any language.—Walter F. Webb, 2515 Second Ave., North St. Petersburg 3, Fla. au122112

CYLINDER PHOTOGRAPHS, records, catalogs, parts. Bought, sold, exchanged.—Nugent, 12 North Third, Richmond, Virginia. mh6844

RAISED PRINT business cards. One color, blue or black, 1000 \$3.95. Two colors \$4.95. Dignified, appealing! Samples free.—Rockport Shop, 27 Bearskin Neck, Rockport, Mass. mh3004

NETSUKES, Manju, old buttons (rare pictorials). Approvals mailed. Collections purchased.—Joseph A. Staven, 777 Warburton Ave., Yorkton, N. Y. mh125511

COLLECTORS: Send us your wants. Prompt replies to all inquiries. We are dealers in jewelry, china, glass, silver, furniture, paintings, objects of art, etc.—Philip G. Wilson, 1502 Chestnut St., Phila. 3, Pa. mh128402

EARRING SCREWBOLTS, metal (for buttons, crochet, shells, etc.), 35c doz. 12.25 gross. Dangle or drop earrings, 35c doz., \$2.50 gross. Silvered or golden. Rings, 35c doz. Pierced ears, 15c per pair. Buttons with safety catch, 1/2 doz. 50c. 1/2, \$2.50, 1/2, \$2.75, 1/2, \$3 gross; all 35c doz. Content 15c. Earring cards imprinted "and made" for 35c. Everything sent postpaid by return mail and satisfaction guaranteed.—Samuel Folsom, 11 Oakland St., Medford 55, Mass. (Wholesale prices on request). mh36121

300 ADDRESS LABELS in gift box. Attractive, colorful, practical. 15 different colors. Only \$1.—Joel T. Wilbur, Proctor, Vermont. mh125511

FOR SALE: The Genealogy and History of the Shreve Family from 1641, by L. P. Allen. Clean editions, 664 pages, price \$15. Write—Harriet Allen Gugler, 219 Ellis Ave., Wheaton, Ill. mh6069

HOBBYIST ATTENTION! Free list novelty salt peppers, horsa, cats, dogs, elephants, pitchers, shoes, etc.—Weinstein's Gift Shop, Morton, Ill. jly6046

Three fine Southern Civil War notes, prepaid, \$1. Confederate bond, \$2.50.—Harry Harris, Box 509, Culpeper, Va. mh3234

AS USUAL—THE UNUSUAL: Hand carved ivory cigarette holders \$2., other carved items available. Illustrated circulars free.—Universal Service, Bath, Erie, Penna. mh3006

COLLECTOR'S CURIO catalogue: 543 illustrations. Nazi-Japanese war relics, souvenirs, decorations, firearms, edged weapons, insignia, native relics, 50c coin.—Babin, 324 H Court, Rochester, New York. jly6238

MYSTIFY your friends. Have them sent Guess Who cards, 25c each, coin or P. O. money order.—Capitol Scruggs, 210 North West 27th Street, Fort Worth, Texas. mh12971

FOUNTAIN: Handsome 3-tier, cast iron. Seven feet tall. Cattle motif. Picture on base.—Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. ap3253

FROM SCOTLAND: Clan Tartan purses, handbags, dolls, pin cushions, needlework bags, handkerchiefs. Send \$1 for sample. Free list. Beautiful handprinted English brochures.—Highland Industries, Box 214, Osyoogo, B. C., Canada. ap3084

500 GUMMED, 1/4" x 2 1/4" labels, printed three lines, 50c, extra lines 15c.—Hunziker, Box 725-XC, Minneapolis, Minn. ap3652

FOR SALE: Collectors' items: Meer-schaum pipe, 1879. Old hand sewed leather sandals, Egyptian, write—Hobby Antique Shop, 2119 F St., Sacramento, Calif. mh1671

MILITARY BOOKS, prints, post cards and cigarette cards. Wide selection new and used items. Free list.—Arthur Kaplan, 51 W. 47th St., New York 36, N. Y. mh3614

DOCUMENTS DUPLICATED. Play it safe. Keep a duplicate of any important paper on hand. Write.—W. Pfenniger, Salina, Kan. mh1251

LARGE COLLECTION sun-colored glassware, pewter, ghost town relics, minerals, artifacts, western curios. Honestly described and priced. Free lists.—John Glass, Box 308, Weiser, Idaho. mh3004

EARN MONEY SPARE-TIME doing pleasant, profitable work. Write—Pinsking, 1401 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N. Y. mh1421

1912 MONTGOMERY catalog, perfect, \$12.50.—James Fry, 1652 Carlyon, E. Cleveland 12, Ohio. mh1001

CATALOGS: 1902 or 1903 large Sears, \$10; 1910 or 1914 large Sears, \$7; 1908 Butler Bros., \$2; 1909 Bellas-Hess, \$1.50; 1890 Jos. Horne, \$3; 1890 Boggs and Buhl, \$3; 1892 Empire Seed, \$1.50; 1890 Perry Seed, \$1.50.—Mathewson's, Jackson, Ga. mh1823

ROSEMAILING designs by Elsa, artist for "The Norway." Introductory offer: three large 17x22" sheets \$1. Choice selection of new designs for plates, complete with inscriptions and borders, breadboards, sugar buckets and smaller items. Color key for popular black plate included.—Avery Craft Shop, 52 S. Main St., Janesville, Wis. mh3487

FOR SALE OR TRADE: 22 Rogers Presidential spoons. Write—M. E. Stelling, Box 333, North Side Station, Atlanta, Ga. mh1602

PENCIL COLLECTORS! Large accumulation of gold, gold-filled and silver antique pencils. Approval shipments sent to collectors.—B. Lowe, Holland Bldg., St. Louis 1, Mo. mh3483

RARE HANGING HALL LAMPS: Green quilted glass shade 9", originally burned candle, electrified and burnished \$15.50, large size H. & Co. handpainted creamer and sugar, pink roses, greens, lots of gold \$18.50; Czechoslovakia red and green trim canister set, 6 large jars, 5 spice jars, hinged top salt, \$18; Old Ivory open handle cake plate, pink and red roses, scalloped gold border \$10; Copper coffee pot 9" tall, burnished \$8.50; R. B. Prussia handpainted \$5.50. Free literature extra. Satisfaction guaranteed.—Lauri Saunders, Antiques, 1524 Arlington Ave., Bessemer, Alabama. mh1696

GHOST TOWN ITEMS: Sun-colored glass, amethyst to royal purple; ghost railroads material, tickets; limited odd items from camps of the 60's. Write your interest.—Box 64, Smith, Nevada. ap12558

DE SOTO HOUSE Galena, Illinois historical items wanted, programs, photos, De Soto Polka published by Lee & Walker 1855-6, new items, admission cards to Jenny Lind concert, receptions, etc. Also pictorial and news items fire dept., Frink-Walker stagecoach, etc. Galena, Ill. Items only. Describe and price.—Miss Virginia R. Carroll, Hotel De Soto, Galena, Ill. ap3848

HANDICRAFTS

WANTED: To do quilting, aprons, all kinds needlework articles. Delicious chicken, wild berries, other items, illustrated circular. Shop agents wanted.—Vera Fulton, Box H, Gallipolis, Ohio. mh3234

Venus, Near Neighbor

(Continued from page 158)

and temperature which cannot be imagined on earth.

Millions of years ago, however, even a very high order of life may have existed on the red planet. As Venus represents what the earth was once so Mars represents something approaching what the earth will be in its old age.

Thus far it has not been possible to detect either oxygen or carbon dioxide in the Martian atmosphere, although there is indirect evidence for existence of small amounts of the former. Water vapor must undoubtedly be present. Although there are no seas, the polar caps must be regions of ice or snow. The reddish color of much of the surface of Mars is probably due to the oxidation of iron-bearing ores by atmospheric oxygen and it is marked contrast to the uniform grey rocks of the moon where it is known that no oxygen can exist.

"The extreme tenuity of the Martian atmosphere," says Dr. Jones, "is responsible for great diurnal variations of temperature. A scanty atmosphere with very little moisture in it does not have much blanketing effect. Near noon in the equatorial regions the temperature rises to about 50 F but in the afternoon, as the sun gets lower, it falls rapidly. After sunset the cold becomes intense and the minimum temperature at night is about 130 degrees below zero. With such an enormous daily range of temperature, the conditions for any form of life must be very trying. Whether animal life can exist seems doubtful, though it is impossible to assert that life may not have evolved to meet those conditions. In Mars we see a world where conditions probably resemble those that will prevail on earth many millions of years hence, when most of our present atmosphere will have been lost. Mars appears to be a planet of spent, or nearly spent life."

There remains, of course, the possibility that other stars than the sun have families of planets. It is even probable. The most widely accepted theory of the formation of planets is that they are due to the collision of close passage of two stars. The stars now are very far apart and such an event is very improbable. Calculations show that it might happen once in about 5,000,000,000 years. That is longer, some astronomers believe, than the earth has existed in its present form. Long ago, however, the stars may have been closer together and possibilities of close approaches much greater. But even so there can be very few planetary systems in the Milky Way galaxy of approximately 60 billion stars.

Even with a planetary system the chances are strongly weighted against the possibility of life in any form similar to that existing on

earth. If a planet is too near the parent sun, like Mercury in the Solar system, it will be too hot for life to exist. If it is too far away it will be too cold. If it is much smaller than the earth it cannot retain any atmosphere. If it is much larger, like the planet Jupiter, it will have retained too much atmosphere, for when hydrogen cannot escape, the formation of the poisonous gases, ammonia and marsh gas, appears to be almost inevitable.

But, says the British astronomer-royal, "we must remember the vastness of creation. There are about 100,000,000 separate universes in the region of space accessible to observation, and we know not how many more beyond. If in each universe there are not more than two or three dozen stars with families of planets, the total number of planetary systems within the relatively small region of space which we can survey is immensely great.

"If the proportion of planets on which life can exist is not more than one in a million—and our survey of the solar system suggests that this is a considerable underestimate—the total number of planets where conditions are suitable for life must be considerable. So it seems probable that there are other worlds where life exists, though that life may be entirely different from any form with which we are familiar."

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APRIL, 1954

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

Darky and Watermelon Bank



Rarity in any collectible group of items always offers the individual collector of the items the ever present challenge to add to his collection. Certainly rarity is an item of consideration as we reach No. 28 in our numerical classification of mechanical banks, namely the Darky And Watermelon Bank.

The bank was designed and patented by Charles A. Bailey on June 26, 1888 under Patent No. 385,225. It was manufactured by the J. and E. Stevens Company of Cromwell, Conn. The writer has never seen this bank pictured in one of their catalogs, however, it is pictured in a Selchow and Richters Catalog of 1888-89 and it is called the "Foot Ball" Bank. It is advertised as a new item for that year and sold for \$8.50 per dozen. Each bank was packed in an individual wooden box as was the usual case with all the mechanical banks.

It might be well to point out the reason for calling this bank the Darky And Watermelon instead of the Football Bank as it was called in the above mentioned catalog. Often the Calamity Bank is called the Football Bank, then there is an English Bank with the name Football Bank imprinted on it. It is obviously better, descriptive-wise, to use Darky And Watermelon to avoid confusion. It's to be admitted that the Bad Accident is sometimes referred to as Darky With Watermelon. However, the name Bad Accident is imprinted on the band

and this should avoid any confusion. There is no name imprinted on the Darky And Watermelon and the individual can use his own judgment in the choice of names.

The bank pictured was obtained by an Eastern collector who apparently felt the price was high and in turn sold it to a collector in California. The bank at present is privately held and this particular specimen will probably never be put up for sale.

The bank is very characteristic of Bailey's tendency to use foliage and flowers. Also it stands on four feet which is the case in a number of his banks. It is painted in appropriate colors according to information obtained by the writer. The melon is green and the base is different shades of green, the ball is brown, and the darky is dressed in red, yellow and black clothes.

The bank operates as follows: First a coin is placed in the football, then the right leg of the darky is pulled back. A lever located in the back of the darky is then pressed and he kicks the football over onto the melon and the coin drops into the melon. The football is fastened to a lever, of course, and this is replaced into position as shown to repeat the action.

The Darky And Watermelon is quite a rare bank and naturally a desirable item to have in a collection. There are reported to be two of these banks existing in private collections.

Death of Dr. Corby

Dr. Arthur E. Corby, New York City, passed away on February 16, after a brief illness. An enthusiastic collector of mechanical banks or many years, he will be greatly missed by his many friends. Survivors include his wife and daughter, Mariol Ann.

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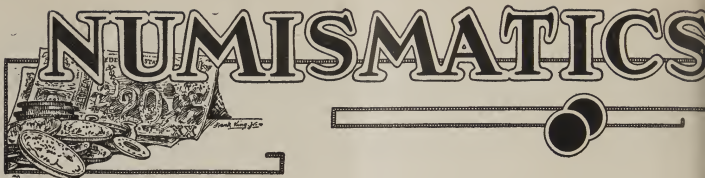
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Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

From the beginning of time, necessity has brought into reality many things, and so, through a necessity, we have our private territorial gold coins. These pieces were struck and issued between 1830 and 1862 in different parts of our country for the purpose of supplying a demand for denominations lacking in regular issues.

While there were laws that forbade the individual states the striking of gold coins, there were none forbidding private persons or private companies doing so.

In 1787, the year before Washington was elected to the Presidency, there was a jeweler named Ephraim Brasher, whose place of business was on Cherry St. in New York City. He appealed to the state legislature for permission to strike copper coins to circulate in that state. Permission was refused, but that did not stop him from using the dies he had made. He struck his coins in gold, their intrinsic value being \$16.00 the same as the Spanish Doubloons. These coins became known as the Ephraim Brasher Doubloons. The one with EB on the right wing of the eagle is one of the highest priced coins of the world. These doubloons are very rare. Sometimes they are listed as a private issue and sometimes they are included in the Colonial group.

The years 1830-1840 saw great industrial development and territorial expansion. These years saw the first steam locomotive, street car and omnibus put to use in this country; the Erie Canal was built and the telegraph invented.

In 1830 a Treaty with Great Britain opened to American Commerce the ports of the West Indies and South America, a treaty with Turkey, the Black Sea.

At approximately the same time one Templeton Reid, assayer, located near the gold mines in Lumpkin County, Georgia, issued the first of his private gold coins from his mint. It is not definitely known just how

long his business existed or just when it started but the first coins to bear his stamp were dated 1830. The coins issued from his Georgia establishment contained gold of a higher standard and fineness than any other ever issued either by private persons or the government. It is reasonable to believe that this is why so many were melted causing their great scarcity.

Christopher Bechtler's establishment was located in Rutherford Co. North Carolina. The first of his coins, although undated are attributed to the early part of 1831. About 1842 he passed his business on to his son August, who continued until about 1852. The gold for these pieces came from North Carolina and Georgia.

When Texas was admitted to the Union as an independent state there was arbitration over the boundary which resulted in the war with Mexico, and ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe in 1838. For \$18,000,000 Mexico sold all her northern territory to the United States. This territory included the region known as California, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, part of Colorado and Arizona.

Civilization had already pushed its way westward when the cry of "gold" came from California and resounded from coast to coast. There was a great exodus from the East and people were pouring into the west in droves. The trials and hardships of the cross country trek by inadequate means did not seem to stop them. With the influx of prospectors, traders, merchants and people from every walk of life, towns grew up overnight. It was the dawn of a Golden Age. The "forty-niner" was staking his claim.

The discovery of Gold in California and at the same time in Australia was a boon to a world suffering from a gold shortage. It changed the whole outlook of industry and commerce. Prices sky-rocketed to unbelievable heights.

For a while gold dust was used as a medium of exchange but was soon found to be cumbersome and impractical. The demand for gold coins was extreme but there were no mints in the west. To ship gold dust to the east to be minted into coins was out of the question. Besides not having adequate means of shipping there was the hazard of hold-ups, Indians, and slow progress overland.

There was an attempt made by the provincial government in the Oregon Territory to establish a mint but this failed. A private organization, the Oregon Exchange Co., sued, starting operations in Oregon City in 1849. They employed a blacksmith to make the apparatus and one of the company's members, an engraver to make the dies.

The Mormons, who for years had been migrating westward, having been expelled from New York, Illinois and Nebraska, had finally settled on the shores of the Great Salt Lake, Utah, while it was still Mexican Territory. They started a mint in 1849 striking coins from gold dust received from California. Their \$20. gold piece was the first to be struck in this country, but its intrinsic value was found to be between \$16-\$18.

There were about 15 private mints operating in California between 1830 and 1855, striking millions of dollars worth of gold coins. Norris, Grob, Norris coined the first piece, a coin of 1849; Moffat & Co. the \$10; Baldwin & Co. the first \$50; Moffat & Co. the first \$20. The coin was octagonal bearing the stamp of the U. S. Assayer Augustus H. F. D. Kohler & Co. and Moffat & Co. issued ingots stamped from bars. The last private issue from California came from the firm of Wass Molitor & Co. and Keane & Co. dated 1855, just one year before the San Francisco Mint was opened.

In 1857 a panic overtook the country due to over-capitalization,

building of railroads, rise of prices, speculation, bad crops, had state banking and diminishing gold output. While there was agitation between the states over the question of States Rights and the Dred Scott Decision, the first Atlantic Cable was being laid. Silver was discovered in Nevada and a new gold district in the West. The "forty-niner" rush was repeated but not in the proportions of the one a decade before as the Rebellion had become a serious issue.

There were three private minting firms in Colorado. The first coins to be struck were by Clarke Gruber & Co. 1860. They issued coins of all United States gold denominations with the exception of ones and threes. In 1862 the government purchased their establishment, which was thereafter conducted as an U. S. Assay office. The original bill called for a government mint at Denver but that did not materialize until 1906.

John Parsons & Co., Tarryall Mines and J. J. Conway & Co., Georgia Gulch, operated their private mints at about the same time for a limited period. The former issued quarter eagles and half eagles, the latter, quarter eagles, half eagles and eagles. None bore dates but are said to have been struck in 1861. They are quite rare, Conway's exceedingly so.

The designs on these coins are varied. Some are very plain with only the name of the mint or mint-date and denomination or weight. Others have very attractive original designs and still others are so very much like the regular government issue that to the ordinary layman they are easily mistaken.

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By HARRY BOSLEY

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What happens to them is a mystery to mint officials. Without a doubt many coins are lost on the beaches in the United States. From time to time coins are found in the sand on the sea shore, lost there by swimmers. Then too, misers hoard a huge number, sometimes burying them, never to be found again. Some go to foreign countries, service men taking them away. Thousands of people put pennies behind blown out fuses. Piggy banks "swallow" a considerable number of coins, and are forgotten. Boys put pennies on railroad tracks to be flattened. Other coins are lost in fires and floods.

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Question:

Can you give me any information on the tracing I have enclosed, such as, kind of coin, and if it has any value.

—J. V. M., New Jersey

Answer:

Your coin is a small bronze of Palestine worth about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing descriptions of two gold coins I have — ½ dollar and ¼ dollar gold.

I also have a 3 cent piece, 1853, star on one side with U. S. of Am. around border on other side.

Also a \$1. gold piece Miss Liberty surrounded with stars, 1851 - wreath on other side.

Will you please tell me value of these coins? Is there a market for them?

—Mrs. J. S. W., Iowa

Answer:

The two California gold pieces are worth \$2 each subject to check for genuineness. The 1851 gold dollar is worth \$4. The three cent piece 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a 25 cent paper bill, Dominion of Canada, dated January 2, 1900.

—G. L. B., Missouri

Answer:

The Canadian note is worth 50c to \$1 in fine condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Did you ever see a gold-back one dollar bill? I have one picked up as change.

A personal friend, an official of a Boston bank said he never had and took it with him, showing it to several persons who likewise had never seen one and could not explain it. They did say it was a genuine piece of currency differing only in that it is gold-backed.

Can you tell me anything about it? Has it any more than face value from a collector's view-point?

I am willing to send it to you for inspection and appraisal should you desire. I am not a coin collector, but do have an old shot bag well filled with old coins that's been in our family a hundred years as well as

many old pieces, commemorative coins that I have picked up.

—W. P., New Hampshire

Answer:

There never were printed any gold back one dollar bills. This can occur however by placing the note in certain types of chemical washes which will change the color to a golden one. This is undoubtedly what has happened to this note.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would appreciate information as to the value of the following coins: Half Cents 1-1829 (13 stars) 1-1807.

Large Copper Cents: 1-1802, 1-1835, 1-1837, 1-1838, 1-1847, 1-1850, 2-1851.

Lincoln Pennies: 1-1911, 1-1917.

Dimes: 1-1923

Fifty Cents: 1-1824 Liberty Head,

13 stars.

Silver Dollar: 1-1921.

—B. L. K., Pennsylvania

Answer:

As no condition is given I shall value them in "GOOD". Half cents 1829-1807 50c each; Large cents from 15c to 50c ea; Lincoln cents, 1923 dime, silver dollar face value, 1824 half 75c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

How do you proceed to get information as to Uncirculated and Proof U. S. Coins (old Coins) now still available at the Office of Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C., and what their costs would be above face value of each coin.

I understand that the May, 1937 Issue of The Numismatic Scrapbook listed uncirculated U. S. coins that could be secured from the U. S. Treasury. Is this issue still published and if so what address would reach such headquarters. Price per issue. Is there a later Scrapbook issue giving the above information that I can secure.

I was told that no Proof Coins are now issued by the U. S. Government nowadays, but I do note that Proofs are available for small U. S. Coins from 1936 to 1942, Philadelphia Mint according to a sales list I have from B. Max Mehl of Fort Worth, Texas.

—W. A. B., Iowa

Answer:

Uncirculated coins are offered for sale by the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., during January to March each year for the preceding years coinages. Write above particulars for the coins of 1953 now available. Proof coins are now available after the year of issue. These were issued in complete sets recently during the years 1936-7-8-40-41-42 and then 1950-1-2-3 and were issued in 1954. They are available at the following address, Superintendent of the Mint Philadelphia, Penna. and cost \$2.10 per set. I secure them now you can only acquire 1954 sets.

Proofs are only issued in sets of 50; 25c 10c 5c; and 1c pieces by the mint during the year of issue, or at \$2.10. Odd quantities are not collected and not desirable, only complete sets.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing four pencil rubbings. Please tell me what the coins are.

—R. E., Wisconsin

Answer:

All very common coins worth less than one cent each.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing a list of a few of I would like to know the value. Would appreciate your reply.

—Mrs. G. B. H., Ohio

Answer:

The California gold coin is worth \$2. The 1864 half dollar in fine condition 75 cents. The 1799 dollar in fine condition \$7.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you kindly advise me the value of the coins as per the enclosed drawings? I believe one is a 3c piece dated 1853. The other is an Indian Head Cent - dated 1871.

—Mrs. E. B. W., New Hampshire

Answer:

The 1853 3c is worth 10c, the other Cent \$1.50.

—C. F., New York

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Question:

I would very much appreciate your advice as to the following coins which I have. Are there any of better than face value?

Half dime, 1843; 3c piece, 1881; one dime, 1893; one dime, 1853; ten cent, 1884; ten cent, 1834; one dime, 1857; one cent, 1857; five cents, 1867; 20 cents, 1875; quarter dollar, 1853; quarter dollar, 1877; quarter dollar, 1876; two cents, 1867; Monroe Doctrine Centennial half dollar, 1923.

Thank you very much. If you are unable to furnish this information, I wonder if you might suggest someone with whom I could correspond. I understand Texas has dealers who offer the most and I would appreciate the names and addresses of some of them.

—E. B., California

Answer:

As condition is not given it is difficult to determine the exact value of your coins. The Handbook of U. S. Coins is a good one to have in one's library, selling at \$1 plus postage.

These coins in good condition list as follows: 1843 half dime 25c; 1881 3c 75c; 1893 dime face; 1853 dime 12c; 1884 dime 12c; 1834 dime 15c; 1857 cent, small 15c; 1867 5c, 15c; 1875 20c with S. 60c, without S. 75c; 1853 25c 30c; 1877 27c, 1876 27c; 1867 2c, 10c. The Monroe half, if undecimated, lists at \$1.50.

All dealers pay about the same. Dealers in one state are not better than another.

—C. F., New York

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WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reporters, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1836-1855 — Wm. H. Dillie, 445 E 39th St., Paterson 4, N. J. ap126351

GOLD COINS—American and Foreign for my personal collection.—Ira Nelson, 60 Battery March St., Boston, Mass. mh124201

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WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my private collection. Reference: Kanawha Banking & Trust Co., D. C. Shook, 302 Kan. Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. je45

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Charleston 27, W. Va. my124201

I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS. List 10c.—Romey, Box 231, Bluffton, Indiana. je124221

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—Harold L. Bowen, 318 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. je125611

WANTED: California Gold Coins for my collection. Any denomination. \$4 dollar to 50 dollars. Write.—Roy J. Popkin, M. D., 3875 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 6, California. je4683

ESTABLISHED DEALER BUYS \$20, \$10, \$5 gold coins. Ship coins insured mail. Our remittance forwarded same day.—Willard, 5719 Kenmore, Chicago 40, Illinois. mh3652

WANTED: Confederate currency, obsolete bank notes, coin collections. For sale: 1954 edition Whitman's Handbook, \$1; 7th edition Guidebook, \$1.75.—Cook Coins, Jackson 5, Mississippi. my3862

Question:

Would like very much to know anything at all about the enclosed note. Very hard for me to explain or describe it so am enclosing it with self addressed envelope. Had thought it might have some historical value as Kaskaskia was the State Capitol of Illinois at one time.

—C. R., Illinois

Answer:

The note you have is one of the many common Broken bank notes commonly used in this country before the Civil War. In its condition it is worth only about 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a pewter stein of Sweden with large coin evidently originally built in on top lid, with inscription, "Gustavus ADOLPHOS, D. G. SVE-CORUM, REX." It also has the name "Lindberg" on the coin in tiny type. The other side of the coin cannot be seen. Pencil rubbing is enclosed. I am trying to determine the age of the stein by the coin, rather than the value of the coin, which I don't suppose is much. Can you tell me when this coin was put out? Also, I have another Faience stein with a French coin embedded into the lid; inscription: "LVND, XV. D. G. F.R. ET. NAV. REX." Pencil rubbing enclosed. Can you tell me the age of this coin and value, if any?

—E. T., California

Answer:

Neither of these pieces are coins but medals. The one of Louis XV of France is of course 18th century. Value is difficult without knowing what damage was done in installing it on the stein. I believe it worth more without removing from stein.

Gustav Adolph ruled Sweden from 1611 to 1632.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have had an old battered coin among my big pennies. It was so beaten up and full of grime that I had it with the mutilated coins.

A careful examination revealed the fact that it was not of our coinage. Cleaning revealed still more.

It is just a little larger than our half-dollar, not quite so thick. It reads "CAROLUS 111-D. G. HISP. REX." No date. Between the neck-line and the R is the figure 8.

I have had a jeweler here put the gold test to it. There is no discoloration. He says that the nitric acid is a rather weak solution but strong enough to show the discoloration if the coin were copper.

I am intrigued with the thought that it may be one of the "Pieces-of-eight."

—H. M., Alabama

Answer:

Your coin is Spanish or from a Spanish colony but I cannot tell much about it as no metal size is given. If it is silver and about the size of a dollar the 8R would stand for 8 Reals or pieces of eight.

—C. F., New York

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FOREIGN COINS. List free. — O. Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Indiana. my304

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Genuine Confederate \$10 bill & 2 Civil War cents, all for \$1.—Leans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans 12, La. #122

Coins: 100 different, \$2.75. 150 different, \$4.50. Iran 1-2-5 rials, silver 80c.—Jolie, Box 19A, Rugby, Brooklyn 3, N. Y. my3

Question:

I have about 115 Indian Head pennies from 1859 to 1909, none with S. They are in condition from good, very fine, and many in 1900 in uncirculated condition.

Do you have a printed price list of what you pay for each, I will gladly buy you my duplicates.

That would be a complete folder of coin cents from 1909 to 1940 inclusive be worth, all in v. g. to fine some ex. f., in retail market? In filling a few Whitman folders that purpose and will advertise in a HOBBIES. I will have to a few of the rare ones to come to them, so you may be of help to me. If you have a list of your coin pennies selling price, please let me know.

—D. L. H., Maine

Answer:

The Whitman coin books, preferably the Handbook which retails at plus postage is an excellent guide to values of used coins. For the higher grade, uncirculated and proofs we suggest the Whitman Guidebook, retailing at \$1.75 plus postage. It should have both to have a clear knowledge of the market. We can help you to buy them.

At the present time commoner Indian Head cents in quantities are chased by us at \$2 per hundred, and at \$3.50 per hundred. Those prior to 1879, however, are priced by their individual merits i.e., condition, etc., and these prices dealers are listed in the Handbook.

Indian cents that are complete and valued according to their condition. You should get from \$15 to \$20 per set if complete. The two denominating coins as to the set's value are the 1909 S VDB and the 1904 D. Their condition is important.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I thought that some years ago there was a law passed permitting the issue, from one mint and one year, of commemorative half dollars.

I note that first the Booker T. Washington and now the Carver coins are coming out successive years, five for Booker T. and now five for the Carver.

It seems to me that if no such law has been passed it should be. Collectors have quit in disgust as so many have with the issue of hundreds of commemorative stamps. I think it would be a good thing if an agitation were started by the American Numismatic Society and by all influential coin dealers and the writers in coin columns, against this thing which is working against coin collecting. Why don't you keep ding-donging against it?

—J. B. C., Florida

Answer:

I agree with you and from time to time have proposed that only one commemorative per year be issued, and that to be a silver dollar which would be a better commemorative coin. No one does anything about it, however.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you please advise the approximate value:

1. California gold half dollar dated 1856, has small bear on lower back of coin.

2. Columbian half dollar, Chicago Exposition, dated 1893.

—W. C., Florida

Answer:

The Columbian half is worth face value only and the California half of 1856 with bear is most likely a charm and valueless. If it turned out to be genuine it would be worth \$2.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please give valuation on following coins:

25c: 1818 - 13 stars, good condition, 1825 - good condition.

3c piece looks like a dime and about the same size; 1865, condition good. 5c pieces: 1856, 1830, 1835.

50c pieces: 1876 no mint, fair condition, 1817 good, 1808 good, 1827 good.

A paper \$1.00 bill small size of series 1928. B0078194A. On right side of Washington large letters is the word ONE. Looks odd to me. Do the large \$1.00 bills have any premium used before change to the smaller ones.

Silver Dollars: 1859 O Mint, 1871, 1876, 1878, 1879, 1891 CC Mint, 1850 O Mint, 1901 O Mint, 1859 O Mint.

—Mrs. E. R. D., Illinois

Answer:

Your quarters are worth 50c each, the 1865 3c 10c; silver 5c pieces 10c each; 50c pieces 75c each. The bill demands no premium unless crisp new unfolded. Prices on the other coins are for "good condition". The dollars are worth as follows: 1859 O \$1.25 to \$2; 1871 \$1.25 to \$2; 1876 \$1.10 to \$1.60; 1878-79-1901 1891CC are worth no premium unless uncirculated; the 1850 O is worth \$1.50 to \$3; and 1859 O \$1.25 to \$2.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing a list of coins which I have and 10c. I should like to know where I can sell these and for how much.

—Mrs. E. S. T., New Hampshire

Answer:

I regret that, in used condition your coins do not demand much premium. However, were they like new they would be worth considerable.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a few coins that I would like you to price. The first and oldest is a 1787 cent. Obverse: NOVA EBORAC circling about a head facing right. Reverse: VIRT. ET. (Lib.) circling around seated Liberty next to shield with fancy loops on the outside, and date below that. It is in very fine condition.

The second is a Liberty Head large cent. The head is facing left, under the head is the date 1849. The head is circled by 13 stars. The reverse has: UNITED STATES OF AMER-

ICA circling a wreath with ONE CENT in the center. It is uncirculated.

The last is the most curious of all to me. It is a 1921 D silver dollar of Morgan design. The reason for its curiosity is that it is cracked from the first star from the date and traveling to the 3rd star. I understand that after a silver coin is minted, it is not supposed to crack. I have enclosed a rough sketch of the coin. (The design is also off center about an mm.)

—D. L., Colorado

Answer:

Your first coin is a New York State Colonial coin the majority of which in good to fine condition are worth from \$1 to \$7.50. There is one variety of these which is rare, however, being worth around \$50 in fine condition.

The 1849 cent to be uncirculated must have absolutely no sign of wear, some original color preferable. In this condition it would be worth \$2, otherwise its value is from 15c to 50c.

A crack such as you have on the silver dollar is unusual but I do not think that it enhances its value much.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have two coins:

(1.) A silver Spanish piece of Eight dated 1754; condition, fine. How much is it worth?

(2.) A copper coin: Obverse, "Georgius Dei Grati"; Reverse, "Rosa Americana Utile Dulci 1722". What is the translation of the reverse inscription and its value if in fair condition? Any other information in regard to this coin will be greatly appreciated.

—E. B. B., South Carolina

Answer:

The Spanish coin in very fine condition is worth \$5, the Rosa Americana piece depending upon condition and size from \$1 to \$5.

—C. F., New York

Question:

A number of coins of small denominations have come into my possession, some of which may have acquired more than face value.

There is also what appears to be a token referring to activities in the time of Andrew Jackson. There is a story that only six of these tokens were made.

May I ask, can you suggest a method by which I can learn the actual values of these coins?

Any information will be greatly appreciated.

—W. D. C., New Mexico

Answer:

If you care to send the coins adequately insured we will be pleased to look them over and advise their value. If they are Foreign minor copper coins do not send for they would be of little value.

Or you can send us an itemized list of them.

—C. F., New York

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Rate: 8c per word;
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WANTED: Old correspondence—stamped envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—H. Ball, 1135 du Pont Blvd., Miami, Fla. **ap6688**

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OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give away, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 22 Lakewood Dr., Glenview, Ill. **n122741**

JAMES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 22 Lakewood Dr., Glenview, Ill. **n122741**

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—J. M. Salmonsens, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. **my3272**

GEORGIA MAGAZINES, bound or loose numbers before 1875.—James Larwood, 1335 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga. **ap3652**

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. **u12668**

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. K. K. 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. **my3422**

POST CARDS: \$4 to \$26 per thousand paid.—Machemer, 2906 Berwick, Baltimore, Md. **je3671**

WANTED: Confederate and southern states currency, bonds, broken bank bills, stamps, U. S. coins, large currency.—J. C. Malsby, 1822-C Bankhead Ave., N. W., Atlanta, Ga. **je3426**

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ARGOSYS, Allstorys, other magazines, old dime novels; highest prices per magazine or per lb.; \$2 each, for copies Thrill Book in good shape.—McNell, 5542 Tilbury, Houston 19, Texas. **my3464**

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ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—L. M. Westend Ave., New York 25, N. Y. **my3023**

I BUY magic trick, hocus pocus, and also memory books, pamphlets, etc.—Morris N. Young, M.D., 170 Broadway, Suite 114, New York 38, N. Y. **my2614**

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS wanted.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, Ill. **ap12344**

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ap70

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The Magazine For Collectors

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(See page 71)



HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

1006 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois

O. C. LIGHTNER, *Founder* (1887-1950)

MAY, 1954

Vol. 59, Number 3

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

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By F. H. GRIFFITH



The fascinating appeal that mechanical banks have for the bank collector is largely due to their animated action, ingenious mechanism, and the method whereby the coin is deposited in the bank. Certainly the Bull Dog Savings Bank, No. 29 in our numerical classification, is one of the outstanding mechanical banks from each of the above standpoints.

The bank was patented by Enoch R. Morrison of New York City, Aug. 13, 1878, and manufactured by Ives, Blakeslee & Company of Bridgeport, Conn. It's interesting to note the patent papers covering the bank show only the figure of the dog. There is no figure of the man. In his place is a simple clamp-type coin holder. We can assume that the figure of the man was added as an afterthought to make the bank more interesting.

The bank shown is in fine all around condition with no repairs. It was obtained a number of years ago from an antique dealer in Providence, R. I. He in turn had purchased the bank in a home in Westerly, R. I., and it had been in the same family since its original purchase.

The bank is painted very simply in a dark brown

type lacquer such as used on the Giant Bank and many of the toy pistols. The front base scroll work and parts of the dog and man are highlighted with gold paint.

The operation of the bank is as follows: It is first necessary to wind the spring mechanism with a key which is inserted in the hole shown in the picture. A coin is then pressed into the clamp holder held by the man. A hidden lever, located at the end of the bank just under the figure of the man, is then pressed. The bulldog immediately springs into the air and snaps his mouth open. As he reaches the coin he snaps his lower jaw closed with the coin inside his mouth and immediately returns to his original position on the base of the bank. The coin meantime goes through the hollow body of the dog and drops into the base of the bank. It is well to note that the dog has large teeth that go over the coin and pull it from the clamp held in the man's hands.

The Bull Dog Savings Bank was apparently one which attained no great degree of popularity during its period of manufacture. There are two factors involved. One is the fact that it was a very high priced item for a toy

in the 1880's. It retailed at \$3.50. The other is that its subject theme didn't have much appeal to a parent buying a toy for their child. Apparently it was thought that the ferocious looking dog was biting the man. Actually the man is offering the dog a morsel of food as represented by the coin.

It's well to point out that many of the mechanical banks have clever mechanical action but the coin has no particular connection with the action other than being automatically deposited into the bank. Others have nice

action in which the coin plays a part or even represents something other than the coin. An example of this latter type is the Darktown Battery wherein the coin represents a baseball thrown from the pitcher to the catcher. The Girl Skipping Rope is a good example of the former type. It has exceptionally fine action but the coin merely drops into the bank when the starting lever is pressed.

The Bull Dog Savings Bank is a fine addition to any collection and was a favorite of the late Walter P. Chrysler, an avid mechanical bank collector.

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Numismatics

Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

King Farouk of Egypt has been one of the leading coin collectors of the world for many years. In fact, his collection is really more of a hoard than a true collection. Its value without question is fabulous.

With the coming of his exile, the Egyptian government confiscated this large collection and announced that it would be sold at auction in Cairo, Egypt. Catalogues were distributed and from the manner in which the material was listed, it was apparent that there would be a chance of securing some very rare and valuable coins for a real low price.

Items were grouped in a most astounding manner, i.e., complete U. S. twenty dollar gold pieces—in one lot, etc. Immediately, several individuals made arrangements to travel to Egypt and attempt to get in on the bargains, offering to purchase any lots that were of interest for the account of those who did not go. At the same time, there was some talk of legal action against the coins in the collection. It was intimated that the exiled king would file suit on any coins of the collection claiming that they were illegally confiscated by the Egyptian government.

One New York dealer claimed to have a very large claim against the exiled king for large quantities of coins he sent to him and for which he was never paid, and there was some question about a 1933 twenty dollar gold piece that was in the collection. You see there are not more than two or three of these in existence, and the United States government claims that none were ever released by their authority. The banking holiday came in the early part of that year and all current gold coins were called in. It was the stand of the government that, insofar as the 1933, \$20 piece was never legally released it should not be allowed to exist at all and they have consistently gone after every one that has turned up. Needless to say, they could not touch one in Egypt but should it ever turn up here, I am certain it will be confiscated.

Now that the sale is over, news has come from abroad that coins did not sell as expected, for bargain prices, but that most all of the specimens offered went for fabulously high prices. This was probably a blow to the bargain hunters, and most surely depressing to those who traveled all

the way to Egypt to get bargains. Travel such as this for business is rather expensive. The dealer who claimed an unpaid bill has announced full satisfaction on the part of the Egyptian government, which, of course, is one stumbling block out of the way.

Now all the boys have to do is get the material they purchased back into this country. We hope that the Egyptian government won't suddenly take it into their head to prohibit exportation of rare coins! Or that the United States Customs won't be too tough on some items which undoubtedly will be bought and brought back here. You see, there are restrictions in this country on the importation of certain types of foreign coins, particularly those that came from behind the Iron Curtain which only went in a year or so ago, and one never knows just what these men will come up against. All in all I am very interested to see what the ultimate outcome is of all these fabulously valued coins, what was paid for them, how they will sell when they arrive here, and if such a trip on the part of so few really pays. Time will tell.

—o—

With the advent of the Republican administration, enthusiastic numismatists in various parts of the country immediately began to raise their hopes that the opportunity again had arisen for them to start entering bills in Congress for commemorative half dollars. Nathan Hale and New York City were to be the first two to be honored. The bills merrily whizzed through the Senate and the House, but were brought up with a sharp bump when they were presented to President Eisenhower. He refused to sign so therefore—no commemoratives. The reason given was that the Commemoratives tend to confuse our coinages with so many new designs and generally speaking, that they were a nuisance. This reason has been brought forward before and, no matter how sorry we numismatists are, has some merits.

These two bills were for very large amounts of coinages, a million and so forth such quantities are too large, and do tend to become a nuisance. As was the case of the Booker T. Washington and the Washington Carver sets, the commissions created false rarities by issuing small quantities each year with mint mark varieties and up to last year, we found that this series had been put out for nine years. It is a shame that each time the government eases up a little and permits a new commemorative issue, that usually is the outcome. While we collectors and dealers are enthusiastic about commemorative coins, we must remember that they still are a nuisance to those in charge. Still it is a shame that commemoratives have to be so hard to get issued. If the government would consider a drastic change in the commemorative question, I believe a solution could be found that would be both satisfactory to it, and the collectors of the nation.

First, I believe that the distribution of commemoratives to commissions should be abolished and that such distribution should be placed in the hands of the Superintendent of the Mint. Second, there should not be a restricted number of coins. They should be coined and sold like the present proof sets are, namely, all that people want to order during the year of issue. Third, ONE event of importance should be commemorated each year, and only one, in other words, we would have one new commemorative coin every year, no more, and no more made at the end of the year. Fourth, that instead of having the commemorative coins half dollars which can possibly confuse our coinages, they be made silver dollars, a denomination that is large enough in size to enable some very attractive designs, and a denomination that is not popular anyway for circulation and therefore would not confuse it. Fifth, I think it would be nice if these commemoratives were struck in proof and sold by the Mint at a premium.

Were this carried out we would have an extremely beautiful set of commemoratives in a few years and would therefore be maintaining the precedent of commemorating event of interest on our coins in a manner that would be fair to all, and cause no harm or damage. It is a shame that commemoratives, that were first struck in the ancient times, should be discontinued by our government, the leader of the world today.

Speaking of commemoratives, those that have been issued in the past have been skyrocketing in value. When we see such fabulous prices asked as, Grant with Star \$72.50; Missouri 2x4 \$45; without the \$23; \$37.50; Hudson halves \$30.00; Howe \$62.50. Think of the Albany, N. Y. half dollars, an original issue of 25,000 coins, the bank in Albany distributed these had a very difficult time selling them at \$2 apiece, many were left and lay in their vaults for several years. Finally in an attempt to dispose of them, they were offered a few years back at one dollar each any quantity you would like to buy. Today, they are offered at \$11 apiece, and those that were not sold were returned to the Mint to be melted.

Other commemoratives of the past followed the same path. Even as far back as 1922 when 5,000 Grant halves with the star were struck (750 were melted up!). No buyers!—for a coin that today sells for \$72.50 each! During the 1915 Panama Pacific Exposition, there were coined 150,000 of the round and octagonal gold pieces. I do not know what the original price for these was, but I do not think they sold for very much premium. Of these 646 octagonal ones were melted up, 1,017 round ones were melted up, and the pair total are worth near \$2,000!

So it goes with commemoratives. Sometimes they're popular, sometimes not, sometimes we can't get them, and sometimes not.



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(Continued from page 113)

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By CHARLES FRENCH

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Question:

Am not sending any rubbings, but can you evaluate the U. S. ten cent note (not a facsimile) described on attached note? See both sides.

—H. B., Alabama

Answer:

This is a Fractional Currency note commonly used during and right after the Civil War. Value about 25c in fine condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have an 1818 coin and would like to know its value. On one side these words are printed: Friedr. Wilhelm III Koenig Von Preussen; and then there is a man's bust on reverse side. The words Ein Thaler, and on the bottom there is 1818 with a picture of an eagle that looks like it is standing on 9 flags and a cannon. It is in good condition.

Please tell me what the wearing spots are.

—D. B., Connecticut

Answer:

The coin you have is a Thaler of Frederick William of Prussia. It is worth 50c.

Wearing spots are the highlights or high spots on a coin's design that, due to circulation first show signs of wear.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a 1946 Booker T. Washington half dollar in good condition, a Japan silver fifty sen, and a Guatemala two reals (1898). Could you tell me of their value, if any?

—D. H., Massachusetts

Answer:

Booker T. Washington halves in uncirculated condition are offered in banks at \$1 each. Jap 50 sen are worth 10c; Guatemala 2 reals 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a ten dollar bill issued by the Farmington National Bank of Farmington, N. H., series of 1929.

Please tell me the value of this bill, and if its value will increase.

—Mrs. M. W. H., Maine

Answer:

I doubt if your ten dollar bill will ever become valuable unless it is in crisp new unfolded condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you kindly tell me the value of an 1824 50c piece, U. S. A. Also what I should get from a dealer?

—E. S. McM., Connecticut

Answer:

Your half is not rare. A dealer should pay you 75c for the coin and he will sell it for \$1, in very good condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to know, if, as a collector of coins, I would be able to keep some of the old yellow-backs, or in other words, old gold certificates? I have been told that a person is not allowed to have any of these in his possession.

—J. B. T., Illinois

Answer:

One is not supposed to keep gold-back bills but I see no reason why one should not keep a set for one's collection. There is no penalty that I know of to date for keeping them. One cannot however offer such bills for sale. If they are to be disposed of they must be turned in to the government at face value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Recently I found an old coin which I imagine has no value, but I am curious as to what it is and its approximate date.

It is 27/32 of an inch in diameter, both sides are minted off-center, and on the obverse around the outside edge it says, "Republique Francaise," which I imagine is the Republic of France. Under the bust there is a name beginning with what appears to be a "D". The bust which is facing left appears to be wearing a nite-cap. Both obverse and reverse is outlined in round dots.

On the obverse it says, "Un Centime" (one centime) "L'AN 7" and also a large cap "A". To the left and slightly below the "L'AN 7" there is a man carrying what appears to be a scythe and on the right side of the coin in the same position the figure looks like a rooster.

—L. S. E., New York

Answer:

While your coin is not valuable it is interesting for it was struck seven years after the French Revolution. Its value is about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would be most appreciative if you would be so kind as to give me the approximate value of the following listed coins:

German 360 Einen Thaler, 1828, g.; Portugal XX Reis, 1883, g.; Canadian five cents, 1893, v. g.; Canadian five cents, 1910, v. g.; German Pfennig, 1889, fair.

—E. S. D., Wisconsin

Answer:

The coins are worth as follows: 1828 10c; 1883 10c; Canadian nickel face value; 1889 2c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Enclosed is a coin quite old. The following is what I would like to be told. What is the country of birth? What is this coin worth?

—J. J., New York

Answer:

Pope Pius IV the Holy See. Vatican Coin this must be. An interesting piece never fear. A dollar is its value here.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you please send me information on how to order proof coin sets and mint uncirculated coin sets from the U. S. Mint?

—D. L. R., Ohio

Answer:

Proof sets of coins can be secured at \$2.10 each by writing the Secretary of the Mint, Philadelphia, Penna., for the current year only.

Uncirculated sets are available from January to March 31, by writing the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. Write to inquire year's costs. By writing now your order will be for 1953 coins.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing 10c for information on these American coins:

Half dime, 1854; half dime, 1861; half cent, 1800.

I also have another dime which date is hard to see but it looks 1857 or 1867. I would appreciate knowing the value of these coins.

—Mrs. E. R., California

Answer:

Your coins in good condition worth as follows:

1854 half dime 15c; 1861-5 dime 30c; 1800 half cent 75c; dime hard to see would be worth

—C. F., New York

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Question:

For the last ten years or so, I have been collecting U. S. gold. It is obvious, however, that such a collection could never become complete, even with the expenditure of a fortune. During a brief trip to Europe last year, it occurred to me that a complete gold collection could be obtained from some of the smaller European countries. On the spur of the moment and with no knowledge of the country's history or coinage I bought the Liechtenstein 10 and 20 fr. gold pieces, Franz Joseph II, 1946. I should like to continue, and if possible complete this collection of Liechtenstein gold.

I have spent considerable time at the University Library trying to get information on this country and its coinage, with meager results. In a catalogue showing 20th century coins of the world published in 1948, there was no reference to the 1946 pieces, although the 1930 pieces are listed without picture. I have since found out that 10 and 20 fr. pieces were minted in 1898, 1930, and 1946, and that a 100 fr. piece would be coined in late 1953. These coins were all, I believe, made for collectors and were sold at a premium by the banks, since Liechtenstein uses Swiss money (previously Austrian money) as legal tender.

Do you know where I can find listings, preferably with photographs of these Liechtenstein coins, and where in the United States I would be most likely to be able to buy them?

And what of Liechtenstein gold

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reporters, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1826-1855 — Wm. H. Dillstein, 443 E 89th St., Paterson 4, N. J. **ad126351**

GOLD COINS—American and Foreign for my personal collection.—Ira Nelson, 80 Battery March St., Boston, Mass. **mh124201**

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for gold coins, rare coins, worthwhile collections. Prompt payment.—John Ziegler, Rt. 2, Fremont, Ohio. **id123511**

WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my private collection. Reference: Kanawha Banking & Trust Co.—D. C. Shonk, 302 Kan. Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. **je45**

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Charleston 27, W. Va. **my124201**

I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS. List 10c.—Romey, Box 231, Bluffton, Indiana. **je128421**

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—Harold L. Bowen, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. **je123511**

WANTED: California Gold Coins for my collection. Any denomination, 4 dollar to 50 dollars. Write—Roy J. Popkin, M. P., 3875 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 5, California. **je6468**

WANTED: Confederate currency, obsolete bank notes, coin collections. For sale: 1954 edition Whitman's Handbook, \$1; 7th edition Guidebook, \$1.75.—Cook Coins, Jackson 5, Mississippi. **my3863**

before 1898? The country has been in continuous existence since 1719. Even though they have used foreign money as legal tender for a large part of their history, it is difficult to believe that gold coins were not struck by some of the earlier reigning princes. Yet I cannot find these coins in any catalogue. I would be very much obliged if you could send me the name of a publication describing all the Liechtenstein gold issues since 1719 and help me to continue this collection. If you are the same Charles French who advertises the coin shop in Troy, N. Y., I would be happy to buy the recommended publications through you, as well as the coins themselves, if you have them.

I am also interested in a listing of all gold coins issued, or to be issued, this year by Great Britain and its colonies, possessions, and dominions during the reign of George VI and Elizabeth II.

—S. B. H., Pennsylvania

Answer:

Yes, it would be difficult to complete a collection of U. S. gold coins and it would cost a fortune, but it has been done and most likely will be done again.

I have gone through my library and fail to find any reference to gold coins of the 18th and 19th century that might have been struck by Liechtenstein. Publications are very scarce on this subject and I fear a more complete record will have to be gotten out of some foreign publication, most likely German.

The 1946 pieces are not listed in the Coins of the World 20th century probably because the U. S. government does not acknowledge that they were actually struck for use, but just designed to get money out of the U. S. collector. In fact, at the present time any such new foreign gold issues are prohibited from importation into this country by the customs officials. This will probably be the case with the 1953 hundred franc piece.

I have not heard of any new British coins for 1954 in gold but presume that South Africa will again have a proof set containing a gold one pound and half pound pieces. This was also issued for Elizabeth in 1945 and George VI in 1952. England has not struck any gold coins and I have no knowledge of gold coins from any other colonies in the last few years.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I recently acquired at the bank a one dollar bill with one corner not completely squared off, somewhat like the enclosed sketch.

I am writing to inquire whether or not this bill could be of any particular value at some future date.

—E. A. G., New York

Answer:

I have heard of such notes before but have never seen one. Would have to determine its value.

—C. F., New York

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for all countries.—List for stamp.—Ken Lee, 623 Security Bldg., Glendale 3, Cal. **ad123511**

SEND FOR FREE 64-page Illustration Catalogue. I have everything in coins. I publish fine Sale Catalogue fine Coin Collections. These are sent free to my Customers. Write whether you want to buy or sell, I will pay you.—B. M. Mehl, 451 S. Building, Fort Worth, Texas. Oldest largest Coin Firm in the U. S. Established 50 years in the same business; in same place. **jal123511**

U. S. COINS, bought and sold. Will appreciate your want list of date if wanted in the U. S. series from Cents to gold pieces.—W. O. White, S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y. **apl123511**

LARGE AND CHOICE stock of U. S. coins, Lincoln cents to halves. Send price list No. 4.—A. Mandel, Box 1, Church St., Station, New York 8, N. Y. **m123511**

MY LIST of coins and paper money and two foreign coins for 15c.—Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Florida. **j123511**

FOREIGN COINS. List free.—Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Indiana. **m123511**

FOR SALE: Genuine Confederate together with Flag and decal. Send.—Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans, La. **ad123511**

INDIAN HEAD CENTS, 10 all different, \$1.18, \$2.25, \$3.30, \$4.40. Postpaid.—Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. **au123511**

OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. List and prices of current coins I have.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. **d123511**

FOREIGN COIN PACKETS 50¢ \$2 each, descriptive lists free. I open, albums, catalogs, books, supplies for coin collectors, send listings.—Webb, 2200 Quintara, Francisco 16, Calif. **mh123511**

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS \$5.00 different foreign coins \$4. U. S. Book \$1.—Parker, 1264 Market, Francisco, Calif. **ad123511**

MANY TYPES of United States for sale! List free for stamp.—The Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Ind. **ad123511**

Genuine Confederate \$10 bill 2 Civil War cents, all for \$1.25. Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans 12, La. **ad123511**

Coins: 100 different, \$2.75. 100 different, \$4.50, Iran 1-2-5 rials, 80c.—Jolie, Box 19A, Rubgy, N. Y. **m123511**

COIN SPECIAL: Complete set of foundland small cents \$1.50. Ten dates Canadian or Newfoundland cents \$1. Many dollar lots available. Gain list with free Indian head cents.—Global Coins, Box 841, Bangor, Me. **m123511**

THE MART

Rates: 8c per word;
Larger type 12c per word.

MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Fla. j63027

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or Southwestern State. Books, broadsides, letters, diaries, business ledgers, early newspapers, theatre programs, anything else.—Argonaut, 336 Kearny St., San Francisco, Calif. j123402

WANTED: Old correspondence—stamp-ed envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—B. Ball, 1135 du Pont Blvd., Miami, Fla. 06829

CIGARETTE, TOBACCO, candy cards. Advertising or issued by tobacco companies.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pennsylvania. 012065

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

WANTED: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—E. M. Salmonsens, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. j63272

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. n12693

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. j63422

POST CARDS: \$4 to \$26 per thousand paid.—Machere, 2904 Berwick, Baltimore, Md. j63671

WANTED: Confederate and northern states currency, bonds, broken bank bills, stamps, U. S. coins, large currency.—J. C. Malaby, 1822-C Bankhead Ave., N. W. Atlanta, Ga. j63426

STEREOSCOPE Views bought.—C. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. 06215

ARGOYS, Allstors, other magazines, old dime novels; highest prices per magazine or per lb.; \$2 each for copies Thrill Book in good shape.—McNeill, 5542 Tillary, Houston 19, Texas. j63464

OLD POST CARDS: Will pay average \$2 to \$3 per 500 plus postage.—By Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. j6403

ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—I. Warshaw, 752 Westend Ave., New York 25, N. Y. j63023

I BUY magic trick, hocus pocus, and also memory books, pamphlets, etc.—Morris N. Young, M.D., 170 Broadway, Suite 714, New York 38, N. Y. j63614

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS WANTED.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, ap12844

WANTED: Baseball guides, magazines, Sporting News, record books, World Series programs, baseball magazine posters, exhibit cards, candy cards, photos, newspaper pictures of players, scrapbooks, etc. Very highest prices paid.—Al Price, Box 615, Pine Bluff Ark. j63295

WANTED: Old American or English made hunting knives and Bowie type knives with 8 to 15 inch blades marked Green River Knife Co., Ixt., Sheffield, or with pictures or mottoes engraved on the blade. Also any with ivory or stag handles. Must be old. Describe and price in first letter.—E. Thornington, 1533 West Third St., Dayton, Ohio. j19419

WANTED: Tin tobacco tins. Collector wishes to add to his collection.—E. A. Krug, 18 E. Hanover St., Hanover, Pa. j63023

WANTED: Left handed mustache cup and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Mateer, 43 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. 06445

OLD STAMPS. Wanted. I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 1c green Franklin stamps, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 ea. unused). Send 10c for large illustrated folders showing stamp prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon J. Hobbies (H-54) Elyria, Ohio. Advertiser in Hobbies since 1931. j63867

WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything pertaining to the old railroads of Colorado.—Koch, 1115 Bryant Ave., New York 59, N. Y. j63001

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran buttons wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. 012238

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. n124201

WANTED: For cylinder phonographs, small horns, reproducers, recorders, catalogs. Latest price postpaid.—Nugent, 12 North Third, Richmond, Va. j6675

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelain, figures and plaques.—Ben Singer, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. n12698

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owners' occupation and name. Lowest prices.—Fred Patterson, P. O. Box 720, Atlanta, Georgia. 0128801

WANTED: Old bonds of bankrupt and out-of-existence railroads, trolley companies, bridges, land company and gas and water works. Will pay \$1 each for ones I don't have. Write or send to—Adwin G. Warman, 3 Frankhoober St., Uniontown, Penna. n126121

WANTED: Old or unusual cameras. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. j636121

WANTED: U. S. stamped or stampless (covers) before 1900, illustrated letters, stamps, early valentines, autographs, documents, other Americana.—John W. Hilde, 821 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. j63042

LAND GRANTS, deeds wills, correspondence, photos, tintypes, daguerotypes, family Bibles, birth certificates, marriage certificates in names Carroll, Hazard (Quebec and Carolinas); De Mont (Nova Scotia and New York); De Mont Colvin, Potter, Dorn, Vanderhoof, Van-veich (New York, Michigan); Allen, Latta, Moore, Neely, Starr (Virginia, Carolina, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee); Campbell (Perry County, Pennsylvania). Describe item; give price. Address — 2104 B Street, Bakersfield, Calif. j638001

American Lottery tickets, handbills, circulars, collections, single items or accumulations.—F. C. C. Boyd, Ringoes, New Jersey. j63804

WANTED: Illustrated trade catalogs (before 1900) covering musical instruments, household goods, jewelry, office equipment, etc.—Anne Gray, 215 East 57th Street, New York 22, N. Y. j63612

WILL BUY GUNS, antique cars, coin operated music boxes, horse drawn fire engines, stage coach, any kind of museum pieces if priced right.—Joe Streeter, Claremore, Okla. j63234

WANTED: Playing cards, wide named or narrow named. Bicycles in green or brown. Describe. Price. Write — Mrs. C. H. Whitaker, R. 2, Box 102, Union Grove, Wis. 06468

WANTED: Confederate belt plates and buttons also artillery projectiles all from identified battlefields. Also Civil War officers' presentation and other souvenirs with name of former owner. Authenticated items only.—Richard Lester, 13 Home Ave., Binghamton 4, N. Y. j63403

FOR SALE

CIGARETTE & Tobacco Cards. Send for my lists.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pa. 06614

SEA SHELLS. Priced catalogue with 1225 illustrations, descriptions from all over the world. Only authentic book of its kind in any language. Price \$2.—Walter F. Webb, 2515 Second Ave., North St., Petersburg 3, Va. ap12211

CYLINDER PHONOGRAPHS, records, catalogs, parts. Bought, sold, exchanged.—Nugent, 12 North Third, Richmond, Virginia. j63844

NETSUKES, Manju, old buttons (rare pictorials) Approvals mailed. Collections purchased.—Joseph A. Staven, 777 Varian Ave., Yonkers, N. Y. j632511

COLLECTORS: Send us your wants. Prompt replies to all inquiries. We are dealers in jewelry, china, glass, silver, furniture, paintings, objects of art, etc.—Edward G. Wilson, 1802 Chestnut St., Phila. 3, Pa. j632402

FOR SALE: The Genealogy and History of the Shreve Family from 1641, by L. P. Allen. Clean editions, 664 pages, price \$15. Write—Harriet Allen Gugler, 215 Ellis Ave., Wheaton, Ill. j63069

HOBBYST ATENTION! Free list novelty salt peppers, horse, cats, dogs, weapons, insignia, native relics, etc.—Weinstein's Gift Shop, Morton, Ill. j19046

Three fine Southern Civil War notes, prepaid, \$1. Confederate bond \$2.50.—Harry Harris, Box 509, Culpeper, Va. j63234

COLLECTOR'S CURIO catalogue: 543 illustrations. Nazi-Japanese war relics, souvenirs, decorations, firearms, edged weapons, insignia, native relics, etc.—Babin, 824 H Court, Rochester, N. Y. j63238

MYSTIFY your friends. Have them sent Guess Who cards, 25c each, color or B. O. money order.—Capitola Scruggs, 2401 North West 27th Street, Fort Worth, Texas. j612971

FOUNTAIN: Handsome 3-tier, cast iron. Seven feet tall. Cattail motif. Pictorial on request.—Stony Point Antique Shop, Stony Point, New York. j63042

FROM SCOTLAND: Tartan golf bags containing pencils, pin cushions, pot holders, purses, handkerchiefs, brooches, needle cases. Sample and list \$1.—Highland Industries, Box 974, Orville, Wash. j19438

500 GUMMED, 1/2"x2 1/4" labels, printed three lines. 50c. Extra lines, 15c.—Hunkiker, Box 725-XC, Minneapolis, Minn. j63042

MATCH BOX labels of the world, 2,000. Collection of 80 years.—Capt. Bill Haese, P. O. Box 12, Key Largo, Fla. j63061

AMERICANIA: Books, historical, western engravings, miniatures.—Ivan Flinders, Ellsworth, Wisconsin. j6308

FELT: 72" wide in brown, green, black, maroon, etc., at \$3.75 yd. Used for lining drawers, tables, bases, etc. 25c per yard extra for shipping.—F. J. Berman, 161 E. 53rd St., New York 22, N. Y. j19305

CALIFORNIA: 52 magazine articles 1858-1900; 32 issues. Pictorialqueenia, by John Muir, 1890; Overland Monthlies.—Mrs. V. Burgess, P. O. Box 196, Aptos, Calif. j63002

RARE LITHOPHANE shaving mug, asp handle, \$17.50. Blue Willow mustache cup, \$12. Mr. & Mrs. cups, \$15 pr. Kenzie dolls, \$4.50. Few paper dolls, \$2. Czar, Coats, etc. Whitney valentines, lace, never used, 50c each. Mechanical bank, eagle and eaglets, one wing off, broken, 25c. Christmas cards, \$1.25. Many calendar plates. Chalk pigiron and spangle. Large selection of Prang cards, fringed, greeting, etc. Magic lantern slides. Canterbury cottage, 16154 Ventura Blvd., Encino, Calif. j63065

MILITARY BOOKS, prints, post cards and cigarette cards. Wide selection new and used items. Free list. Arthur Kaplan, 51 W. 47th St., New York 36, N. Y. my3614

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS printed on 500 attractive labels, \$1.—Joel Tillberg, Proctor, Vermont. j6844

LARGE COLLECTION sun-colored glassware, pewter, ghost town relics, minerals, artifacts, western curios. Non-stamped and priced. Free lists.—John Glass, Box 308, Weiser, Idaho. my3004

OLD CATALOGUES, trade cards, advertising material and posters. Auto material, fashions, patent medicines, farm machinery, bicycles, etc. Please write—Frank Lavine, 15 Eaton Street, Boston, Mass. j6234

ROSEMAILING designs by Elsa, artist for "Little Norway." Introductory offer: three large 17x27 sheets \$1. Choice selection of new designs for plaques, complete with inscriptions and borders, breadboards, sugar buckets and smaller items. Color key for popular black plate included.—Avery Craft Shop, 52 S. Main St., Janesville, Wis. my3487

OLD GAMES: Crandall, McLoughlin Bros., Milton Bradley, etc. Send for list.—F. L. Ball, 45 Fresh Pond Lane, Cambridge 38, Mass. j6363

PENCIL COLLECTORS! Large accumulation of gold, gold-filled and silver antique pencils. Approval shipments sent to collectors.—B. Lowe, Holland Bldg., St. Louis 1, Mo. my4483

GHOST TOWN ITEMS: Sun-colored glass, amethysts to royal purple; ghost town material, tickets; limited old items from camps of the 60's. Write your interest.—Box 64, Smith, Nevada. ap1251

DE SOTO House Galena, Illinois historical items wanted: programs, photos. De Soto Polka published by Lee & Walker 1855-6, news items, admission cards to Fenny Lind concert, receptions, etc. Also railroad and news items fire Dept., Frink-Walker stagecoach, etc. Galena, Ill. items only. Describe and price.—Miss Virginia R. Carroll, Hotel De Soto, Galena, Ill. jy3211

HANDBOOK of old American toys. (Hertz) 500 illustrations, \$3.58.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Culbertson, Chicago, Ill. j64322

OLD BOTTLES: Liquors, bitters, perfumes, sodas, etc. Also sun-colored bottles and items from ghost towns of the West. Write your interest.—Farker, Box 503, Boulder Creek, California. my3844

80 VOL. The New York Times Midweek Pictorial, published in 1917 to Aug., 1918, \$1.50 each plus postage. About First World War with Germany.—William Jecelin, 4117 Elderon Ave., Baltimore 15, Md. j63822

AMERICAN ITEMS: Old advertising cards \$5. \$1. Product of card \$5. \$1. Early 1900's post cards, views or greetings, 100, \$1. Many other items. Monthly lists free.—Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. j63625

FOR SALE: Stampettes. Beautiful stationery decorated with dainty designs made from stamps, \$1.75 per box note size; letter size \$2 plus postage.—Lucile Collier, 2108 Watrous, Tampa, Florida. jy3614

INTERESTING fine hand colored, steel engraved antique maps of foreign lands. 75 to 100 years old, \$1 each ppd.—Lane, 1261 Merriam Ave., New York 52, N. Y. my1422

SEA SHELL CATALOGUE

The only book of the kind in the world, 1225 illustrations covering Florida, West Coast and Foreign shells, with descriptions and prices. Ready to ship. You are the price and book on a single shell. Only \$2. prepaid.

WALTER F. WEBB

2515 Second Ave., N., St. Petersburg 3, Fla.

Playing Cards

(Continued on page 153)

are quite novel. They are cut in two horizontally through the center, and the cards must be matched—the upper that belongs to the lower part of the design. On the back is another game—arithmetic, card by card to give the multiplication table. On the upper half: "Ten x 8," then on the lower half will be the answer. Acrobats, Jugglers, Sailor with his parrot, a squirrel sitting on a tree limb, girls in bright fluffy dresses, etc.

England even had its "Old Maid" set, which also had "The Bachelor." The cards have illustrated nursery rhymes. "Little Jack Horner Sat in His Corner," and shows a very roly-poly fat boy sitting on a high stool, with the plum on his finger and his mouth open, while his little dog sits up begging for a morsel. "Doctor Foster went to Gloster in a shower of rain," "A Dillar, A Dollar, a ten o'clock scholar," "Tom, Tom, the Piper's son," "Baa, ba-a black sheep, have you any wool?" "Jack be nimble, Jack be quick," "Old King Cole was a Merry Old Soul," "Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle," "Sing a song of six-pence," "Pussy-cat, Pussy-cat where have you been?" These are only a few of the better known rhymes. These are lithographed, corners almost a sharp square and the backs are an off-white. This deck comes in pairs.

A child's picture game starts with a robin's nest and eggs on a limb in a black outline to form a frame for the pictures—all identical through the deck. The last card of the deck is a clown.

It would not be fair to talk about games of England and omit a very old game, "H. M. S. PINAFORE," old game, "H. M. S. PINAFORE." This starts out with Captain Corcoran, commanding H. M. S. Pinafore; "Little Buttercup," a Ports-

mouth Bumboat Woman, who has a basket on her arm with a pair of suspenders and a pair of men's hose hanging over the edge of her basket. "Bill Bobstay, Boatswain," "Dick Deadeye, able seaman," "Ralph Rackstraw, able seaman," "Josephine, the Captain's daughter," "First Sister of Sir Joseph Porter, K. C. B." "Fourth Sister of Sir Joshua Porter, K. C. B." "Then the Fourth Cousin, etc." and "H. M. S. Pinafore" shows the early sailing boat. These are oversize cards and the figures are large, with no background of design, filling in. (Square corners lithographed).

Game cards are one of the very old and important phases of card collecting. They have not been hampered by taxes, so have had a chance to grow. Some of them are educational cards some are game, but they are all interesting to have in your collection.

The Third Annual Chicago Spring Meet

The third annual Chicago Spring meet of the Playing Card Collectors is to be held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel, May 14, 15 and 16, at which time Chicago playing card collectors will be hosts to the collectors throughout the country.

There will be about sixty large frames of old, rare and unique decks and clever arrangements of attractive modern cards. The decks to be exhibited range from 1679 A.D. to the present.

If you have not made your reservations do so at once to be sure of a room at the Conrad Hilton, by writing Mrs. Dorothy Powells, 9645 S. Leavitt St., Chicago. There has been a sufficient number of rooms allotted the Chicago Chapter for all guests, if they are reserved in advance, through the Secretary.

This is the only large annual meeting of Playing Card Collectors throughout the country. It promises to be bigger and better than ever this year.

The lightning-spark of Thought, generated or say rather heaven-kindled, in the solitary mind, awakens its express likeness in another mind, in a thousand other minds, and all blaze up together in combined fire.

All work, even cotton-spinning, is noble; work is alone noble. . . . A life of ease is not for any man, nor for any god.

To each is given a certain inward talent, a certain outward environment of Fortune; to each, by wisest combination of these two, a certain maximum of capability.

The greatest of faults, I should say, is to be conscious of none.

From the writings of
THOMAS CARLYLE

HANDICRAFTS

WANTED: To do quilting, aprons, all kinds needlework articles. Delicious canned chicken, wild berries, other foods. Illustrated circular. Shop agents wanted.—Versa, Fulton, Box H, Gallipolis, Ohio my3234

SWAPPERS

This department for swapping collectors' items only. Rates 5c per word.

SWAP MATCH BOOKS, 25 for 50 alike, local ads only. Regular or odd sizes. Will buy collections.—Dr. Charles J. Higgs, 61 Carey Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. au120401

HAVE BADGES, buttons, match labels, cigar bands. Want guns, lamps, gold coins, toys, old store or drug store items.—T. N. Fosse, Nashua, Iowa. my1021

ITEMS OF MANY KINDS, including philatelic, to swap for advertising cards and other Americana. If interested write John W. Stine, 821 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Ill. my1021

BARGAINS FOR EVERYONE

Buy Bebee's Choice Quality Coins — You'll Agree There IS a Difference!

SCARCE U. S. DOLLARS, BRILLIANT UNC.

Carson City Mint, 1878 \$2.95; 1879 \$6.95; 1881	\$48.95
1882 \$6.95; 1883 \$6.95; 1884 \$5.95; 1885	19.85
1890 \$2.95; 1891 \$3.95; 1892	4.85
New Orleans Mint, 1881 \$6.95; 1882 \$8.95; 1883	3.95
1884 \$4.75; 1885 \$5.95; 1889-90 \$4.95; 1900-0	3.75
Phila. Mint, 1878 7 feathers \$3.45; 8 feathers	2.95
1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, each	2.45
1886 \$4.95; 1887 \$5.95; 1893	6.75
1900, 1904, each	4.95
San Francisco Mint, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882,	
1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1897, each	2.45
1898, 1900, 1901, 1902, each	2.95
1883, 1885, 1889, each \$3.95; 1902 Rare	62.50
SCARCE CIRCULATED DOLLAR BARGAINS:	
1881-CC VG-Fine \$4.95; Fine	6.35
1882-CC VG-Fine \$2.45; Fine	2.95
1883-CC VG-Fine \$2.45; Fine	2.95
1889-CC VG-Fine \$2.95; Fine	3.95
1893-S VG-Fine \$12.95; Fine	16.50
1903-O VG \$10.95; VG-Fine	14.95
1925-P About Unc. \$2.95; Or, Brilliant Unc.	
with few mint handling scratches	3.95
3 POPULAR ALBUMS, holds complete set Morgan dollars, 1878 to 1921. With visible slides (\$1.50 ea.)	4.50

U. S. GOLD COINS

Nice coins at Rock-Bottom prices (dates of selection)

			Fine	V. F.	Abt. Unc.	Unc.
\$20 Gold	VG-F	\$40.75	\$11.95	\$14.75	\$46.75	\$49.75
\$10 Gold	VG-F	20.45	21.45	22.75	24.75	27.75
\$5 Gold	VG-F	10.45	10.95	11.95	12.95	14.95
\$2.50 Ind.			6.95	7.75	8.75	9.95
SAINT-GAUDINS TYPE SET, \$20, \$10, \$5, \$2.50 (last two Indians). Brilliant Unc. In black plastic holder. While a few sets last, only						
Similar Set as above, all About Unc.						
LIBERTY HEAD GOLD TYPE SET, \$20, \$10, \$5, \$3, \$2.50, Dollar. All Brilliant Unc. In black plastic holder. A Bargain						
Similar Set as above, all about unc.						
QUEEN ELIZABETH II CORONATION SET—Ten Glittering Proofs, Farthing to Crown. In leatherette case						
FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN SET—Ten Glittering Proofs, Farthing to Crown. In nice plush box						
IRISH SET ANIMAL COINS (8) in green box						
GEN. MacARTHUR SET (2), Brilliant Unc.						

Commemorative Half Dollars

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(See page 80)

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The Magazine For Collectors

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JUNE, 1954

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

A Rare Pottery Mechanical Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH

The great majority of mechanical banks are made in cast iron. Then, of course, there are some in tin, wood and tin, and the rarest most desirable of all, the Freedman's Bank, which is a combination of wood, metal and cloth.

A mechanical bank in pottery is a very unusual item and the one pictured is the only pottery mechanical bank the writer has ever come across.

There is a pottery alms box in the Metropolitan Museum of Art that is attributed to the Han Dynasty 206 B. C. to 220 A. D. This is said to be of Chinese origin and is a rectangular shaped chest supported by figure-like feet. There is a slot in the front, and on top a small figure of a bear somewhat broken. When a coin is deposited the bear bows forward. This piece, in the strictest sense, isn't necessarily a mechanical bank, but it certainly is an early forerunner of the type.

As to the item pictured, it is definitely a mechanical savings bank and nothing else. It is made of a brown type clay with the coloring in the glaze. The figure is apparently that of a monk and the cloak and hat are a peculiar off-color purple. The face and hands are off-white in color and his beard, moustache, eyes and hair are the same color as his cloak and hat. The book he is holding has a small piece of printed paper pasted on the reading surface. The printing is in German.

The bank is five and three fourths inches high and four inches wide at the shoulders. The coin slot is located in his chest just in back of the book. The head and neck are suspended on the shoulders by a small metal rod molded in the neck. The neck is made so it fits down inside the body and on the end of the neck there is a small flat metal piece and a round weight.

In operating the bank a coin is inserted in the slot and it drops on the flat metal piece causing the head to nod back and forth. This action continues for some time and is similar to that of the nodding head figures.

The bank was found by George Wisecarver of Pittsburgh on one of his periodical antiquing trips to Europe. Mr. Wisecarver located the bank through the antiquarian Dr. W. A. Luz of Berlin, Germany. Dr. Luz in turn purchased it in Munich. He feels that the origin of the bank is probably Bavarian and that the figure represents a beggar monk and is connected in this way with the symbol of Munich. Dr. Luz thinks it is a very rare item of its kind, and he dates the bank around 1800 to 1820.

In any event, the bank is certainly an unusual piece and quite different from the usual types of mechanical banks.



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Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

HISTORY records Cape Henlopen on the southern shore of the Delaware Bay, as a place of great danger for early sailors, and it truly was that. The records indicate many ships went down or were shipwrecked there. Lewes, Delaware, originally named Lewis) has a history closely connected to shipwrecks, pirates, and the coins of old. Located at that handy spot, many of the once infamous pirates would come there to purchase supplies, and look for locations to hide or bury their illgotten wealth. Captain Kidd, "Blue skin," a native boy of Lewes, all traveled these waters, and stories of these days even now are fascinating topics of conversation. The thought of being so near to buried treasure, sunken ships laden with gold, and rumors of a huge chest of Spanish gold that a Lewes resident was supposed to have dug up on the Cape many years ago refuses to let interest die down.

One treasure story, authenticated in part, is that of the sinking of the British sloop of war, *De Braak*, a victim of a freak storm. She now lies in eighty-two feet of water off of Cape Henlopen where she went down 154 years ago. This belief is based on the fact and conceded by the British Admiralty, that the *De Braak* on the way across the Atlantic, captured three Spanish pirate ships, and that she was carrying considerable in value aboard. A first hand tale that has come down through one of the Lewes families, tells of a pilot, aboard the *De Braak*, seeing many Spanish prisoners aboard her, and that Captain James Drew had informed him of the capture of millions in gold and silver. The disaster occurred very soon after this, and by a miracle the witness was saved, one of the few. One of the Spanish prisoners floated ashore on an old empty trunk, and this trunk is now in the Lewes Zwaanendael Museum. Many attempts have been made to recover this fabulous buried treasure but to no avail. Per-

haps, with the new and modern equipment available, a new attempt will be made.

Mr. Johnston, the well known Marine Salvage expert, relates another story, of the sunken "Golden Gate." She went down off the west coast of Mexico in 1862 and still can be seen 400 feet off shore stuck in the sand. Approximately \$500,000 in treasure have been recovered from her, but it is estimated there are still \$1,100,000 aboard waiting for anyone who can get it. Rough seas are the problem there. There is only about sixteen feet of sand over the wreckage and in one treasure box alone, according to the Treasury Department, there's \$35,000 worth of golden \$50 California gold slugs those rare California gold coins, supposedly part of the only batch of \$50 slugs made. They were minted in San Francisco and were being shipped to the treasury in Washington, D. C. These octagonal gold coins were 95% pure and we understand that the Treasury Department will purchase them for \$165 each. This is low from a numismatic standpoint, for the coins are worth \$500 each and up to collectors, but the fact that they have been submerged in salt water for so long, probably means if found will be in such poor condition as not to be of much premium value to a collector. Hence the government price would be a good one for them.

At Rehoboth Beach, Del., near the sight of the many wrecks, so many coins of various types have been washed up and found that it has the nickname "Coin Beach." Gold pieces of all kinds, Spanish silver pieces of eight, small Hibernia and Britannia copper pieces all kinds show up, and the Zwaanendael Museum has a very interesting display of many of these. Zwaanendael House in Lewes is the repository of a great deal of the historical material relating to the seafarers town which was originally settled by the Dutch in 1631. Catherine C. Maul,

the curator, is constantly in search of information endeavoring to throw light on the many mysteries that turn up there.

Several half pennies (bronze coins of little premium value usually) that have been methodically clipped (a good share of the coin being cut away in a straight, official line manner) have been found on Coin Beach. A good deal of speculation has been going on as to why these coins were clipped. At first it was thought that they had been clipped by the early colonists to "get a little extra copper," that scarce commodity, but the fact that the coins being washed up on Coin Beach came most likely from a ship directly from England makes this supposition improbable. To give some light on the subject during the days of George, III the question of enough coins was always difficult one, money never being available in large enough quantities and the government only spasmodically did anything to remedy the trouble, probably due to lack of funds.

It is known that such was the case in Ireland, and the "Hibernia" half pennies were struck from time to time in an attempt to ease the coinage need. But the Irish, even though they would have little or nothing to do with the British, and even though they needed the coins, refused them flatly. When the British rulers found the coins all back in their hands they naturally looked about for some other place to unload them. This was where the colonies in America came into the picture. As early as 1733 Wood's tokens, known as the Hibernia farthings and half pennies were shipped to America for use here. Just those reasons. This, of course, does not explain the clipping, it is a general outline as to what circumstances were at the time. A half penny I have before me, which is of the clipped variety, dated in the 1770's and is not of English, but of British make, "B

nia" being easily read upon it. is genuine, and seems as though it had little wear when it sank beneath the waves, but of course, underneath salt water can raise havoc with the condition of the best of coins. The only reason I can think of account for the expert-like clipping is that the English government wanting to "feathermark" these coins—cut off a piece to identify them as being released for circulation in the American Colonies, or perhaps they were clipped in this manner to reduce their value, or perhaps, the clip was some sort of a tax or fee. In any event, if any of my readers has any knowledge about these I would greatly appreciate the information. It is possible that, were these pieces clipped for use in the American colonies, that such clipped pieces would then come under the category of an American Colonial Coin and such become a new "find" for this interesting series—and perhaps turn out to be a very rare variety for it is possible that the only ones identified such came here in the De Braak and went down to the bottom with it. Many other items are washed up in Rehoboth Beach, and recently a handsome metal knee buckle was found there, and is now on exhibition at the museum. The Smithsonian

ian Institution has examined the buckle and reports that the workman ship appeared to be similar to other metal work done around 1785.

In the year 1739 a petition was presented by John Read of Boston to the Governor and General Court at New Haven asking aid in procuring a patent from the Crown to coin copper coins for circulation in Connecticut. Some people think that this application had some connection with the operations of John Higley, of Granby, who without official authority, for several years had been coining copper three pence, on his own account.

No action appears to have been taken in regard to this petition, and for nearly half a century the currency of the Connecticut Colony consisted almost entirely of depreciated paper with a scant supply of English half pence.

(Continued on page 130)

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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

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Question:

Enclosed is a list of coins which I own. Would you please tell me their value in your column in *HOBBIES*?

Penny 1909, V. D. B.; 1-1921 U. S. quarter, very good; 1-1915 U. S. half dollar, S mint, nice condition; 1-1921 half dollar, S mint, good condition; 1-1932, U. S. quarter, S mint, good condition; 1-1932 U. S. quarter, S mint, thin scratch back; 1-1853 U. S. silver 3 ct. piece (13 stars); 1-1936 U. S. silver colored penny, practically new cond.; 1-1893 O mint dime, dent, figures plain; 1-1875 U. S. quarter S mint, (13 star) very good; 1-1912 U. S. half dollar, fair to good; 2 Centennial wooden nickels, Hampton, N. H. (1638-1938).

Canadian Coins: 2 large pennies 1903-16; 5c pieces-1911, 1910, 1912, 1899 and 1919; 1 Quebec Bank Token, half penny 1852 (Indian and ship on coin); Dominion of Canada paper money 1923 (2), 1-1900; 4 (more) large Canadian cts., 1887, 1896, 1917, and 1906; 1-Newfoundland half dollar 1919c. (George V), very good; 1-Pontifical coin, 10 soldi, 1868 (Pius the 9th), extra good.

—D. B., Massachusetts

Answer:

1909 Cent VDB 1c; 1921 Quarter VG 1.50; 1915 S half .60; 1921 S half Face; 1932 S Quarter .40; 1932 S Quarter scratch .40; 1853 3c good cond. .10; 1936 cent must have been plated; 1893 O dime dent Face; 1875 S quarter .30; 1912 half fair Face. Wooden nickels, only curiosity value. Canadian cents large 3c each. Canadian nickels face if circulated. Other coins of no particular value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Is there any value to this coin which I will describe: It is a one cent piece which reads "Millions for Defense" on one side—thirteen stars on the other with a bust of a woman with short hair dated 1875? It is the size of our pennies of today. It is rather hard to read an inscription under the bust. I also have a new gold English sovereign dated 1908 of Edward VII picture on one side.

—M. H., Florida

Answer:

The coin you have is a Hard times

token or Jackson cent issued between 1837-41. It is worth 10c.

The English gold sovereign is worth \$9.00.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Is the money I describe of any value: 1. Have a 20-cent American coin dated 1875, good condition. 2. Have a ten cent United States paper money Series of 1874.

—Mrs. M. S. K., Michigan

Answer:

The 1875 twenty cent piece in good condition is valued from 60c up depending upon variety. The 1874 fractional currency note in good condition is worth 20c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have in my possession what appears to be a gold coin slightly larger than a 25-cent silver coin. I am sending you a rough sketch of both sides of this coin and perhaps you might be able to identify it and tell me something of its value.

—B. S., California

Answer:

The coin you have is most likely not gold but brass, and it is not a coin but a medal. Unfortunately it is of little value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please find enclosed 10 cents for information on the value of two Chinese coins I bought on the Chinese Wall in China twenty years ago. I believe they are at least 3000 years old, and have been described as "Knife money." They are two pieces about six inches in length and average about three-fourths inch wide. There is a large hole at one end—in the handle, through which a string could be passed, tying the coins around the waist.

—J. R. P., Kansas

Answer:

There are many varieties of the Chinese knife money and in varying sizes. The size of yours leads me to believe it is earlier than the time of Christ. The majority are valued at

from \$5 to \$10 each, in fine condition.

They must be authenticated, there are a good many counterfeit about, of Chinese origin. They are known to have been made recently, and sold to tourists.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please write me the prices on following coins:

(1.) 2½ dollar American gold coin, date 1914, head of Indian; reverse side, eagle, "E Pluribus Unum," "In God We Trust."

(2.) \$5.00 American gold coin, Liberty head, United States America; reverse side, date 1 eagle and leaf spray.

(3.) 1890 English gold coin? Victoria and her picture, "Die Victoria"; reverse Shield, "Britannia Regina, fid: def:"

—Mrs. C. H. J., Nebraska

Answer:

Your coins are worth as follows:
Gold \$2.50 1914 \$5.00
Gold \$5 1900 \$9.00

Your British gold piece can be a sovereign or half sovereign; the first it is worth \$9.00, if it is second it is worth \$4.50. Denomination is determinable by size, Sovereign is size of U. S. \$5.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I enclose tracings of a large dian copper cent inscribed thus: of Upper Canada, Bank Token. Penny, 1852. I have looked at a Canadian coin folders for large and I haven't seen one that has place for the large Canadian cent 1852. It is in excellent condition. Please tell me what you can about it.

—D. Y., Michigan

Answer:

This coin is a Canadian token and is not listed as one of the regular issues of Canadian Value about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What is the value of a \$2.50 piece dated 1900 in excellent condition.

—G. H., Michigan

(Continued on page 124)

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Coin Quiz

(Continued from page 122)

Answer:

1900 \$2.50 gold piece is worth \$6.00
—C. F., New York

Question:

Would you please evaluate the following coins:

1. Turkiye Cumhuriyeti with moon and star, 1949 on one side and 10 Kurus within a wreath on opposite side.

2. 1950, Same pattern as above with 5 Kurus on opposite side.

3. 1875 - Helvetia under a woman leaning on shield with cross on it with star around the woman one side and on the opposite side ½ FR 1875 within a wreath with a B under it.

4. 1880 Nederland 2½ cent.

5. Front side Georgivs V Dei Gra Britt Omn Rex Fid Def Ind Imp with bust of man. Opposite side Farthing with man in armor holding a shield, underneath 1917.

6. Front side is a bird which resembles an eagle with crown and ribbon above its head. Opposite side-2 with Deutches Reich 1874 Pfennig around it.

7. Please evaluate this quarter especially 1943 Washington Head quarter. The back slants and is not straight when lined with front. It slants about 1/16 of an inch. No mint mark.

Please reply as soon as possible by mail. I enclose 10c to cover the postage.

—P. S., New York

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reporters, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1826-1886 — Wm. H. Dillistin, 443 E 29th St., Paterson 4, N. J. ap136351

GOLD COINS—American and Foreign for my personal collection.—Ira Neele, 50 Battery March St., Boston, Mass. mh124201

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for gold coins, rare coins, worthwhile collections. Prompt payment.—John Ziegler, Rt. 2, Fremont, Ohio. d122511

WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my private collection. Reference: Kanawha Banknote & Trust Co.—D. C. Shonk, 303 Kan. Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. je45

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Charleston 27, W. Va. mh124201

I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS. List 10c.—Romey, Box 291, Bluffton, Indiana. je128421

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—E. A. Rowen, 518 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. je123511

WANTED: California Gold Coins for my collection. Any denomination, ¼ dollar to 10 dollars. Write—Roy J. Popkin, M. D., 3875 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 6, California. je6465

WANTED: Confederate currency, obsolete bank notes, coin collections. For sale: 1954 edition Whitman's Handbook, 11; 7th edition Guidebook, \$1.75.—Cook Coins, Jackson 5, Mississippi. au3483

Answer:

All of the Foreign coins are very foreign and valued at from 2c to 5c each. As to the 1943 quarter it is not uncommon that the reverse be a little off center.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me the value of the following coins:

Indian Head Pennies: 1859, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1880, 1885, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1894, 1895, 1898, 1900, 1901, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, and 1908. All in very good condition. No mint designations.

Two Cent Pieces: 1864, Good condition; 1865, Excellent condition; 1867, Date legible rest of piece slightly worn; 1870 Date legible rest of piece slightly worn.

One Cent: 1858 Flying Eagle, spread wings, good condition; 1849 Very good condition except hole bored in it and 1817 U. S. one cent, good condition.

Quar. dol. 1853, 13 stars, new condition.

Half Dol. 1858, excellent condition. Columbian Half Dollar 1893. Excellent condition.

Quarter Dollar 1900. Good cond. Quarter Dollar 1932, Excellent cond. 25 C 1831 Excellent condition.

Dime 1906. Side with date excellent, reverse side worn.

Half Dime 1853 Excellent condition. Half Dime 1857 Excellent condition. 5 cents 1872 Excellent condition

1873 (believe Liberty Head) U. S. America coin, reverse side III surrounded by a wreath, new condition (believed to be a 3c piece).

ALSO please identify the following coin and tell me value:

5 Cen???? (rest of word not legible) Vittorio Emanuele II Re D'Italia 1861. Condition very good except part of word indicated that is not legible.

—Mrs. R. J. W., Maryland

Answer:

The Indian heads prior to 1864 are worth five cents each. The balance 2c ea., the 1885 is worth 10c. The 2c pieces 5c each excepting the 1870 which is worth 10c.

1858 cent 10c; 1849 valueless, 1817 15c.

1853 quarter unc. \$3.00 must be perfect; 1858 half 75c; Columbia halves face value; 1900, 1932 quarters face value; 1831 quarter 50c; 1906 dime face; half dimes 10c ea.; 1873 3c 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you please give me the valuations of the coins listed below:

1. Napoleon Empereur with profile Gold Coin. Rev. Empire Francais, 40 Francs inside wreath. Below, Cock-erel, dated 1812, letter A. Incised edge, Die Protege L A France.

2. Napoleon III Empereur, "Barre"

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for all countries.—List for stamp.—Kenn Lee, 623 Security Bldg., Glendale 3, Cal. mh12

SEND FOR FREE 64-page illustrated Coin Catalog. I have everything coins. I publish fine Sale Catalogs, fine Coin Collections. These are sent free to my Customers. Write whether you want to buy or sell, will pay you.—B. Max Mehl, 451 N. Building, Fort Worth, Texas. Established largest Coin Firm in the U. S. Established 50 years in the same business; in same place. jai2

U. S. COINS, bought and sold. Will prelate your want list of date of coins in the U. S. series from 1 Cents to gold pieces.—W. O. White, S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y. ap12

LARGE AND CHOICE stock of U. S. coins, from cents to halves. Send price list No. 1.—A. Mandel, Box 7, Church St. Station, New York 8, N. Y. mh12

MY LIST of coins and paper money and two foreign coins for 15c.—Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Florida. je

START YOUR COLLECTION N. Silver dollars; Fine to Unc. 5-19.50 \$18.50. (All different).—Gerald Schuch, 121½ N. Wahsatch, Colorado Springs, Colo. au

FOR SALE: Genuine Confederate together with Flag and seal. Send—Oreana Coin Shop, 517 Baronne New Orleans, La. mh12

INDIAN HEAD CENTS, 10 all different \$1, 18, 25, 33, 39, 44. Postpaid.—E. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. au

OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. List and prices of current coins 1.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. d1

FOREIGN COIN PACKETS 50c each, descriptive lists free. E. J. opes, albums, catalogs, books, supplies for coin collectors, send listings.—Webb, 2200 Quintara, Francisco 16, Calif. mh12

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS 50c different foreign coins \$4. U. S. Book #1.—Parker, 1254 Market, Francisco, Calif. mh12

MANY TYPES of United States for sale! List free for stamp.—T. Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Ind. j

Genuine Confederate \$10 bill 2 Civil War cents, all for 1. leans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne New Orleans 12, La. mh12

150 different foreign coins, 10 uncirculated countries, 50c. for free list.—Jolie, Box 19A, R Brooklyn 3, N. Y. a

GOLD COINS. American \$5, \$10, \$100 above double face value. Plus ins. and P.P.—Kurtz Gun 715 Central Ave., Far Rockaway, N. Y. mh12

CLASSIFIED AD RA

8c per word; three months for the first of 2; twelve months for the price (Except for change in address changes permitted on the low three months rate.)

ow head. Rev. Empire Francais, France/Gold coin. A 1855, coat of arms in center with crown, crossed swords, shield with eagle in center, inscribed edge, Dieu * Protege * LA *
Sance*****

Same as above, but with 1864 date, also 50 Francs Gold.

Copper coin Helvet Republ with wreath. Rev. 5½ Batzen 1799

Copper coin. Female heads facing each other, left with long hair and wreath. Right one with short hair and crown on back of head. Rev. * Et * Reg * (LVD XIII Et Mar D G Fr E. T.

Nav Rex

around coin
slax * IRE * vias --
1666

ows sun with rays toward mountain below, and curving from right toward sun a panel with 3 signs of liac. (Looks interesting).

—Mrs. A. M. H., California

Issues:

No. 1 is worth \$15; No. 2 \$20; No. 3 \$20; No. 4 10c and No. 5 50c.

—C. F., New York

At The Smithsonian

Stuart Mosher, curator of the Smithsonian Institution's coin collection, recently announced that this collection now consists of over 61,000 specimens. It contains coins and medals of all periods and metals.

The collection had its start in 1793 when the United States Mint in Philadelphia. Each year the chief coiner would set aside a specimen of each type and date of coin minted. This collection was transferred to the Smithsonian after the First World War.

To this collection have been added coins of foreign countries of all periods in various metals from iron to gold and platinum. In addition, extremely valuable coin collections have been presented to the Institution by private collectors.

Beginning with Ptolemy I of Egypt, 323-283 B.C., who was the first man to place his portrait on a coin, nearly every famous person in history will be found portrayed on coins and medals in the Smithsonian collection. The Smithsonian collection is added greatly to the historical value of the collection for, in many instances, such portraits are not to be found in any other medium of art. Of special interest, says Mr. Mosher, is the long series of Roman portrait coins which begins with Julius Caesar and continues to the fall of the Roman Empire some 500 years later. While the Romans never surpassed the Greeks in art, they did excel in portraiture and their rulers are depicted in a realistic fashion.

There are many coin denominations that are closely interwoven with history and literature, and such pieces do not fail to arouse the curiosity and interest of the visitor. Among the ancient coins will be found the Jewish mite and the tribute penny

mentioned in the Bible. The Venetian ducat, the florin of Florence, and the Spanish doubloon, which for centuries ruled the money marts of the world, are on view, as are other denominations of lasting fame.

Of unusual interest in the United States series are the denominations that once circulated but for some reason or other proved to be neither necessary nor popular. These include the half cent, the two-, three-, and twenty-cent pieces, and the trade dollar—all orphans of our national coinage.

Perhaps the question most frequently asked regarding the collection is what it is worth. This question, Mr. Mosher explains, cannot be answered, for the collection contains many unique pieces that have never been offered on the coin market, and so there is no basis by which to estimate their value. Whatever monetary value might be placed on the collection would be small in comparison with its artistic and historic worth.

The earliest coins represented are the staters of Lydia, in Asia Minor, which were coined about 700 B.C. These crude little globular, shaped pieces were made from a natural alloy containing 75 percent gold and 25 percent silver. These are the first coins "invented" by man.

Examples of the first silver coins, silver staters from the island of Aegina, are also in the collection, and these date from about 600 B.C.

One section of the United States portion of the collection is devoted to the pattern or experimental pieces which were made at the Mint as early as 1792 and continued up until fairly recent years. Many of these designs were never adopted, but they served a useful purpose in helping our designers arrive at a design that would be attractive as well as resistant to wear.

The collection of Lincoln medals and tokens which is on display in the Coin Room was formed by the late Robert Hewitt of New York. It comprises 1,300 pieces and is the largest of its kind in existence.

The exhibit of paper money is divided into seven periods, the first of which is devoted to the notes issued by the Thirteen Colonies previous to the time of the Revolution. This is followed by the issues authorized by the Continental Congress from 1775 to 1779.

Following this is a representative exhibit of the notes issued by private banks from 1800 to 1860, U. S. fractional notes from three to fifty cents, Confederate currency, and U. S. Government notes. The latest acquisition is a complete set in duplicate of all U. S. current paper money from the \$1 to \$10,000 bill. These were especially prepared by the U. S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and while they have no face or "spending" value they never fail to fascinate the passers-by.

The coin collection is located in the U. S. National Museum's Arts and Industries Building, in Washington, and is viewed by more than a million visitors every year.

Chicago Exhibit

In pocket and purse, through better and worse, generations of Chicagoans have carried the coins and currency that are now on exhibit at the Chicago Historical Society in Lincoln Park.

From the "Wampum" of early settlement days to the crisp new bills and bright silver coins of today, the Chicago Historical Society is presenting a panorama of money.

The Society's exhibit is now open to the public and will continue through June 30. The coins and currency used in Chicago from 1833 to 1953 are from the collections of the Chicago Historical Society and several members of the Chicago Coin Club. Dr. Carl Westmark, Chicago numismatist, served as consultant in the preparation of the exhibit.

Arranged in chronological order, the display of coins and currency begins with Chicago before 1833 and shows the arrow-heads, wampum, and foreign coins that were current in the United States as well as the half-cents, half-dimes, and five dollar gold pieces. A contemporary view of the city is shown with each section of the display.

Present day Chicagoans will discover on viewing the exhibit that the current medium of exchange has been conveniently streamlined for them by the elimination of the early half-cent, three-cent nickels and fractional currency in three, five and 50 cent denominations.

Each period has had its distinguishing coins or currency. Back in 1833, when the city was born, Chicagoans used \$3. bills, and in 1840-1850 they began to use \$5. currency. The flying eagle cents were in use during 1850-1860, along with \$1. paper notes and three cent silver.

During the Civil War and Recovery (1860-1870), fractional currency came into use as well as three-cent nickels, postage currency and Civil War tokens. When the Great Fire of 1871 destroyed Chicago, and during the reconstruction period that followed, 20-cent pieces were in use as were gold pieces in \$5, \$3, and \$2.50 denominations.

The "elegant eighties" (1880-1890) had the Indian head cents, and the "gay nineties" (1890-1900) saw the Isabella quarters issued at the Columbian Exposition in honor of the Spanish Queen. The turn of the century and soon after witnessed the change of type of all the coins.

World War I had its Lincoln-Illinois commemorative half-dollar. The boom and depression of the 1920-1930 period saw the use of the big \$1.00 bills, and the prelude to World War II (1930-1940) reduced the size of the bills and eliminated the use of gold coins. The years of World War II and immediately following brought the "steel cents" and the silver wartime nickel. Today, although we're still not minting gold coins, we're back to the bright copper pennies.

THE MART

Rate: 8c per word;
Larger type 12c per word.

MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Fla. j58027

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or Southwestern State. Books, broadsides, letters, diaries, diaries, letters, early newspapers, theatre programs, anything else.—Argonaut, 336 Kearny St., San Francisco, Calif. au128402

WANTED: Old correspondence, stamped envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—B. Hall, 1135 du Pont Bldg., Miami, Fla. 05329

CIGARETTE, TOBACCO, candy cards. Advertising or issued by tobacco companies.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pennsylvania. 01269

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

CANES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—E. M. Salmonsens, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. j63272

CIGARETTE tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. n12698

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. n5844

POST CARDS: \$4 to \$24 per thousand paid.—Machemer, 2906 Berwick, Baltimore, Md. j63071

WANTED: Confederate and southern states currency, bonds, broken bank bills, stamps, U. S. coins, large currency.—J. C. Masby, 1822-C Bankhead Ave., N. W., Atlanta, Ga. j63286

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS bought.—G. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. n6215

WANTED. Automobile items, anything pertaining to the Auto Era: car accessories, literature, also Americana catalogs that describe goods.—B. J. Pollard, 14300 Prairie, Detroit 38, Mich. n5238

OLD POST CARDS: Will pay average \$2 to \$3 per 500 plus postage.—Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. au3023

ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—J. Warshaw, 752 Westend Ave., New York 25, N. Y. au3252

I BUY magic trick, hocus pocus, and also memory books, pamphlets, etc.—Morris N. Young, M.D., 170 Broadway, Suite 715, New York 38, N. Y. au3614

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS wanted.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, ap1244

WANTED: Baseball guides, magazines, Sporting News, record books, World Series programs, old baseball magazine posters, exhibit cards, candy cards, photos, newspaper pictures of players, scrapbooks, etc. Very highest prices paid.—Al Price, Box 615, Pine Bluff Ark. j63296

WANTED: Old American or English made hunting knives and Bowie type knives with 8 to 15 inch blades marked Green River Knife Works, IXI, Sheffield, or with pictures or mottoes engraved on the blade. Also any with ivory or stag handles. Must be old. Describe and price in first letter.—R. E. Thornton, 1633 West Third St., Dayton, Ohio. jly3449

WANTED: U. S. coin glass, unusual scuttle shaving mugs, old German steins, miniature lamps, china head dolls all old, rare U. S. coins and gold. Describe fully, giving best price.—James Winquist, 624 Ashland Ave., Rockford, Ill. au3295

WANTED: Left handed mugs, pitcher and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Mateer, 437 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. 06445

OLD STAMPS Wanted. I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 1c green Franklin stamps, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 ea. unused). Send loc for large illustrated folder or a stamp amazing prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon Baker, (H-54) Elyria, Ohio. Advertiser in HOBBIES since 1931. j63867

WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything pertaining to the old railroads of Colorado.—Koch, 1115 Bryant Ave., New York 59, N. Y. j63004

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran badges wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. d12238

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. au124201

WANTED: Louis XV dinner knives and teaspoons, 14" or larger ruffled Satin Glass bowls.—Dealer, 1231 W. Hilbrand, San Antonio, Tex. s4405

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelain figures and plaques.—Ben Weisinger, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. n12688

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owners' occupation and name. Liberal prices.—Frederick Patterson, P. O. Box 1730, Atlanta, Georgia. 012805

WANTED: Small busts musicians and composers in good condition, all materials. Write, giving description and price.—M. E. Stelling, Box 333, Northside Station, Atlanta, Ga. j6102

WANTED: Old or unusual cameras. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 23, Ill. mh126121

WANTED: Cylinder photographs, parts, catalogs.—Nugent, 12 North 3rd, Richmond, Va. n6283

American Lottery tickets, hand-bills, circulars, collections, single items or accumulations.—F. C. C. Boyd, Ringoes, New Jersey. j63804

WANTED: Illustrated trade catalogs (before 1900) covering musical instruments, household goods, jewelry, office equipment, etc.—Anne Gray, 215 East 5th Street, New York 22, N. Y. j63004

WILL BUY GUNS, antique cars, coin operated music boxes, horse drawn fire engines, stage coach, any kind of museum pieces if priced right.—Joe Street, Chicago, Okla. j63234

WANTED: Playing cards, wide named or narrow named. Bicycles in green or brown. Describe, Price. Write.—Mrs. C. H. Whitaker, P. 2, Box 102, Union Grove, Wis. s4688

DE SOTO House Galena, Illinois historical items wanted, programs, photos, De Soto Poika published by Lee & Walker 1855-6, news items, admission cards to Jeany Lind concert, receptions, etc. Also pictorial and news items if green or Frink-Walker stagecoach, etc. Galena, Ill. Items only. Describe and price.—Miss Virginia R. Carroll, Hotel De Soto, Galena, Ill. au3111

Man's books are but
man's alphabet,
Beyond and on his lessons lie—
The lessons of the violet,
The large gold letters
of the sky.

"Joaquin" Miller

FOR SALE

CIGARETTE & Tobacco Cards. Send for my lists.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pa. 06614

SEA SHELLS. Priced catalogue with 1225 illustrations, descriptions from all over the world. Only authentic book of its kind in any language. Price \$2. Walter F. Webb, 2515 Second Ave., North, St. Petersburg 3, Fla. au12111

HOBBYIST ATTENTION! Free list novelty salt peppers, horse, cats, dogs, elephants, fishers, shoes, balls, etc.—Weinstein's Gift Shop, Morton, Ill. jly6046

COLLECTOR'S CURIO catalogue: 543 illustrations. Nazi-Japanese war relics, souvenirs, decorations, firearms, edged weapons, insignia, native relics, 50c coin.—Babin, 324 H Court, Rochester, New York. j63235

MYSTIFY your friends. Have them sent Guess Who cards, 25c each, coin or P. O. money order.—Capitola Scruggs, 2401 North West 27th Street, Fort Worth, Texas. j122971

FROM SCOTLAND: Tartan golf bags containing pencils, pin cushions, pot holders, purses, handkerchiefs, brooches, needle cases. Sample and list \$1.—Highland Industries, Box 94, Orville, Va. jly3483

500 GUMMED, 1/2"x2 1/4" labels, printed three lines, 500 extra lines, 15c.—Hunkler, Box 725-XC, Minneapolis, Minn. jly3652

FELT, 72" wide in brown, green, black, maroon, etc., at \$3.75 yd. Used for lining drawers, tables, bases, etc. 25c per yard extra for shipping.—F. J. Berman, 161 E. 53rd St., New York 22, N. Y. jly3086

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS printed on 500 attractive labels, \$1.—Joel Thiborg, Proctor, Vermont. s6844

OLD CATALOGUES, trade cards, advertising material and posters. Auto material, fashions, patent medicines, farm machinery, bicycles, etc. Please write—Frank Lavine, 15 Eaton Street, Boston, Mass. j63234

ROSEMAKING designs by Elsa, artist for "Little Norway." Introductory offer: three large 16x22 sheets \$1. Choice selection of new designs for plates, complete with inscriptions and borders, breadboards, sugar buckets and smaller items. Color key for popular black plate included.—Avery Craft Shop, 525 Main St., Janesville, Wis. my3487

OLD GAMES: Crandall, McLoughlin Bros., Milton, England, etc. Send for list.—F. L. Ball, 45 Fresh Pond Lane, Cambridge 38, Mass. j63638

PENCIL COLLECTORS! Large accumulation of gold, gold-filled and silver antique pencils. Approval shipments sent to collectors.—B. Lowe, Holland Bldg., St. Louis 1, Mo. au3488

GHOST TOWN ITEMS: Sun-colored glass, amethyst to royal purple, about railroads material, tickets; limited odd items from camps of the 60's. Write your interest.—Box 64, Smith, Nevada. s4581

HANDBOOK of old American toys. (Hertz) 500 illustrations, \$3.50.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. j63422

OLD BOTTLES: Liquors, bitters, perfumes, sodas, etc. Also sun-colored bottles and items from ghost towns of the West. Write your interest.—F. L. Ball, 503, Boulder Creek, California. my3844

80 VOL. The New York Times Midweek Pictorial, published in 1917 to Aug. 1918, \$1.50 each plus postage. About First World War with Germany.—William Jecelin, 4117 Elderon Ave., Baltimore 16, Md. j63595

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RAVENSCROFT

Coat-of-Arms

(Continued from page 158)

ney, Hampshire Co., Va., near the north branch of the Potomac River, June 22, 1808. He married Nov. 21, 1841, Mary F., daughter of Henry and Lucinda (Peters) Casteen and had five sons and one daughter. Samuel Ravenscroft appears in the 1784 tax list for Hampshire Co., Va., with eight in his family. In 1882/3 he married Priscilla Savers. He was born about 1751/2 and died August, 1807, in Hampshire Co., Va. (now West Virginia) where he had a land grant in 1792. His descendants scattered and are known to have settled in Ohio, Maryland, Missouri, Kentucky, Illinois and Kansas.

William Ravenscroft, born about 1760, married a Ramsey. A list of his children is given in Laura Sage Jones' "Records of Hampshire Co., Virginia."

Brumbaugh's "Colonial Records" mentions a John Ravenscroft as a taxpayer in the list of George Town Handred, Frederick Co., Md., aged 42, Aug. 22, 1776. There are none of the name listed in the 1790 census of Maryland, but another branch of the family is represented by Francis Ravenscroft (1760-1823) of Frederick Co., Md., and Hampshire Co., Va. He had issue James who married Mary Ellen Cresap; William and John who

later went to Coshocton Co., Ohio, with brother James; and a daughter Mary who married Otho Cresap, brother of Mary Ellen, her brother's wife. Francis received a pension for Revolutionary War service, and you will find his descendants treated in Ruth Thayer Ravenscroft's manuscript.

Another Ravenscroft giving Revolutionary service was Capt. Thomas, who died 1829, in Harrison Co., Ky. He served as a private in the Virginia Continental line, and left issue six sons and four daughters.

Some other early Ravenscroft settlers were: "Capt. John Ravenscroft on the 10th of Sept., 1651, received a pass to go to Virginia" (Ref: William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. 1); Anthony of Westerly Rhode Island in 1661 (Savage); and Benjamin who came in the "Rose and Crowne" in 1679 from the Barbadoes. (Hotten: Lists of Emigrants to America).

I know Mrs. Ravenscroft would enjoy helping anyone interested in Ravenscroft lines, and, too, would appreciate receiving new material to add to her records. As printed material is disjointed and scattered, the Ravenscroft family owe a vote of thanks to William Price Ravenscroft for his marriage to Ruth Thayer!

RAVENSCROFT

He beareth for Arms: Argent a chevron between three ravens' heads erased sable. Crest: a lion statant sable.

Translated into non-Heraldic terms: A silver (argent) shield charged with a black (sable) chevron between three black (sable) ravens' heads forcibly torn from the body leaving the separated parts jagged and uneven (erased). Color names are not repeated in heraldry, and as no color is mentioned after the chevron, we know that it, like the ravens' heads, is black. Crest—a black (sable) lion in standing position with all four feet on the ground (statant).

The chevron is one of nine so-called Honourable Ordinaries, straight sided figures one-third the width of the shield, first symbols used to identify men encased in armor. The chevron, "tinkered onto the roof of a house" is emblematic of protecting the defenseless. It is also granted to one who builds churches and fortresses for his country.

The raven typifies wit, sagacity and love for home, and represents one of enduring constancy of nature. The lion is the king of beasts and is symbolical of service to his country and deathless courage. There is no difference in meaning between the different attitudes of beasts, as variation is necessary to avoid duplication.

Silver signifies sincerity and peace; sable, the fur lining of royal robes, constancy and nobility.

It is a Ravenscroft tombstone in Westminster Abbey that bears the well known inscription:

"What I gave, I have; what I spent, I had; What I left, I lost by not giving it."

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Hobbies

The Magazine For Collectors



"MARY GREGORY WINDOW"

(See Page 81)

HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

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JULY, 1954

Vol. 59, Number 5

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

North Pole Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH

A number of the mechanical banks were made to represent certain individuals, and in some cases, their connection with a historical event or an event of interest. The North Pole Bank, No. 30 in our numerical classification, commemorates the discovery of the North Pole

and was made at the time of the Peary-Cook controversy. Either Peary or Cook could be identified with the bank and it was apparently made this way so it could be sold to individuals on either side of the controversy.

The North Pole Bank was patented by Charles A. Bailey of Cromwell, Conn., July 26, 1910, and manufactured by the J. and E. Stevens Company also of Cromwell. Apparently, it was felt at the time that this bank would be a good seller, but it certainly doesn't seem to have been the case as indicated by the relative few that have turned up so far. Of course it's to be admitted that mechanical banks had passed their peak of popularity by 1910 and many of these later banks are the hardest to find today.

The bank pictured is from the fine collection of Mr. L. C. Hegarty and was found in New England a few years ago. It is in perfect original condition with no repairs and the paint is excellent. The lower part of the bank is painted in aluminum and the upper part is a bronzo gold color. Inscribed on the upper part of the bank is the wording "North Pole Bank—Put Coin In Slot." The American flag is painted realistically with red and white stripes. As can be seen in the picture, the bank is decorated with a number of eskimos, seals, walrus, sleds, and the like. These are painted in gold tan and white.

From an operation standpoint, the bank is not particularly spectacular, but still the action is very appropriate and interesting. The picture shows the bank after the action has taken place. To operate, the flag is pushed down manually and it clicks into place inside the bank. In the left side of the bank (the viewer's right side) there is a coin slot. The coin is pushed into this slot and the flag pops up as shown. Coins are removed by the conventional type round Stevens' coin trap.

As mentioned at the beginning, some banks are identified with an individual or are a personal caricature. In some cases this individual is also connected with a historical or special interest event. An example of this is the World's Fair Bank. This bank commemorates the World's Fair and also Columbus and the discovery of America. After the World's Fair it was made without the name "World's Fair" imprinted on it. Of course, it still represented Columbus and the discovery of America.

In the case of the North Pole Bank, it is an example of a lack of any personal identity with an individual, but it still represents a historical event and you could choose your own hero, Peary or Cook.

The North Pole Bank may have simple action but it is a difficult mechanical bank to find and a fine addition to any collection.



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- BOWLING ALLEY BANK
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- CLOWN ON BAR (Tin figure)
- PATRONIZE THE BLIND MAN & HIS DOG
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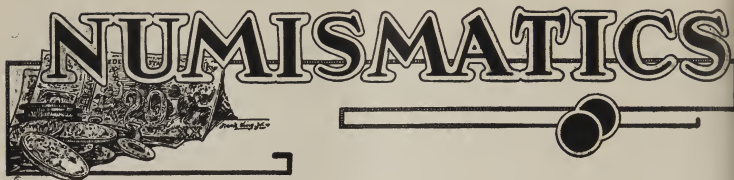
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NUMISMATICS



Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces

Pattern, Trial and Experimental pieces is one of the most interesting phases of coin collecting.

Patterns show the attempts of the designers to put over a new idea in coinage and through these pieces one can trace the evolution of the coins that finally were adopted. While they have a resemblance to regular United States coins, they are not legal tender.

Trial pieces were struck in metals other than those intended for use. It was customary to strike a number of test specimens from regular dies in all kinds of metals.

Experimental pieces were the results of the mint engravers on their own trying one obverse with that reverse, etc., and mixing them up in general, or leaving out stars, or inscriptions. In other words, running wild with ideas.

Looking over some of these pieces I have often wondered why they were not adopted instead of the ones which were, for, to me some are far superior from an artistic standpoint than the designs put to use. However as any new change in design is up to the Coinage Committee and to Congress, perhaps we can understand why the beauty of the coin is not the most important.

The list of these pieces is endless requiring much explanation, so I have picked out a few of the most interesting to write about. As a result this is far from being a comprehensive study.

In 1789 when monies, weights and measures were being proposed, a pamphlet was issued containing some suggestions. Quote "The cent for a device may have a man on one side, erect and comfortably clothed and holding a spade in his hand, read, Fro. Indust. Cents Beco Eag. Meaning, From Industry Cents Becomes Eagles. On the reverse instead of the Eagle let there be on the margin, 'United States of America' and in the middle

of the piece 'Cent'. There will be a fair margin which may be lightly ornamented or crowded with Gothic taste, if it be taste."

The first Cent issued did bear a similar reverse as did one of the first patterns but apparently the suggested design of the erect, comfortably clothed man was not given much thought.

In 1792 quite a number of pattern coins were made at the Philadelphia mint. The most important of these being the disme and half disme. The latter is said to have been the first pattern ever made at the mint and the silver which was used had belonged to Martha Washington and was her own service. Although included in the list of patterns it was regularly authorized by Congress but very few were ever minted. There seemed to be a bit of controversy over the portrait on the obverse as to whether it be Martha Washington or a bad imitation of Dupre's Libertas Americana medal.

Until 1836 few patterns were struck at the mint. In January 1837, Congress passed a law changing the weight of the dollar and half dollar. It was at this time, 1835, that Christian Gobrecht came into the employ of the mint and executed most of the dies. The design for the obverse of the Gobrecht dollar was submitted by Thos. Sully and the reverse by Titian Peale. When Gobrecht completed his first dollar design it was found that his name took up a prominent part in the field under the base. It is said that there were 18 of the former and 1,000 of the latter struck. These figures apply to the coin with the 26 stars on the reverse surrounding the Eagle. The one with the plain field is exceedingly rare. Gobrecht's Liberty Seated obverse was used on dollars until 1878 when it gave way to the Bland Dollar, the design of George T. Morgan. This design was used on quarters, halves and dimes until 1891. While many dollar patterns were struck at the mint from 1836 through 1893, none appeared for circulation until 1840.

It is also interesting to note that patterns for the Gold dollar and two-cent piece were struck in 1836 but the former was not issued for circulation until 1849 and the latter in 1864 and then in a different design.

Around 1856, Congress decided to redeem all the large copper cents and the fractional parts of the Spanish and Mexican dollars which were flooding the country, so the little flying eagle cent was fashioned. The value of this cent has been skyrocketing in the past few years as it is not only considered a pattern but part of our United States coinage. In 1857 it was adopted by Congress. At the end of two years the redemption had stopped and in place of the depreciated money there was a flood of flying eagle cents which by now had become the greater of the two evils as people were paying bills up to two and three dollars with these cents.

At the beginning of the Civil War and the religious revival, one M. R. Watkinson, a member of the clergy, wrote Mr. Chase, then Secretary of Treasury, stating that he thought we should recognize the Almighty God on our currency and made many suggestions. The first pieces to show the adoption of his idea were the half dollars and eagles of 1861, with the motto reading "God Our Trust." It is to be remembered that our country was still in the midst of one of the saddest affairs of our history and more time and thought were given to affairs of war than to weights and measures, so perhaps that was the reason for the three-year delay. It took until 1864 for the Director of the Mint, Secretary of the Treasury, Committee on Coinage and Congress to get together on the motto and concurrent with this came the two-cent piece, issued for circulation for the first time and being the first regular coinage to bear the familiar motto "In God We Trust."

With the assassination of Lincoln, the end of the long war and the beginning of the reconstruction, people were uneasy. And as we have seen in our own time financial disaster re-

lting in hoarding wherever possible, or forefathers did so too. They not only hoarded gold but every conceivable kind of coin. With this a project was started to lessen the weight of the currency and reduce the size to try to prevent hoarding and importation, but this was not carried through. There were many pattern pieces struck with this idea in mind and they are known as the Standard Silver pieces.

The first pattern piece to be struck for international use was in 1868 and a second just six years later but as all know neither was adopted. There was also a little later a demand from the West for gold coins in large denominations. The 50 dollar gold piece struck at the mint never emerged from the experimental stage. A gold dollar was proposed in 1877 for the purpose of stopping rivalry between gold and silver. While there are three different designs struck for a dollar there is not in existence a gold half or quarter and yet there is little doubt that these pieces were struck as mint officials have always been prompt to put in metallic form suggestions of the Coinage Committee. Two specimens were presented to the Committee, one in gold and one in silver. It was shown that the gold was unsuitable because it could be distinguished from the silver

by ordinary laymen. While the former was worth 100 cents the latter was worth only 60 cents, in metallic value.

During the controversy over the international and the gold coinage a demand came from our minister to (Continued on page 125)

U. S. DOLLARS

MORGAN TYPE DOLLARS: 1878-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87, all S mint \$2 ea. 1900-1908-1909-1910, all S mint \$2 ea. 1911-1912-1913-1914, all S mint \$2 ea. 1915-1916-1917-1918, all S mint \$2 ea. 1919-1920-1921, all S mint \$2 ea. 1922-1923-1924, all S mint \$2 ea. 1925-1926-1927-1928-1929, all S mint \$2 ea. 1930-1931-1932-1933-1934-1935-1936-1937-1938-1939-1940, all S mint \$2 ea. 1941-1942-1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950, all S mint \$2 ea. 1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960, all S mint \$2 ea. 1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970, all S mint \$2 ea. 1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980, all S mint \$2 ea. 1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990, all S mint \$2 ea. 1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000, all S mint \$2 ea. 2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010, all S mint \$2 ea. 2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020, all S mint \$2 ea. 2021-2022-2023-2024-2025-2026-2027-2028-2029-2030, all S mint \$2 ea. 2031-2032-2033-2034-2035-2036-2037-2038-2039-2040, all S mint \$2 ea. 2041-2042-2043-2044-2045-2046-2047-2048-2049-2050, all S mint \$2 ea. 2051-2052-2053-2054-2055-2056-2057-2058-2059-2060, all S mint \$2 ea. 2061-2062-2063-2064-2065-2066-2067-2068-2069-2070, all S mint \$2 ea. 2071-2072-2073-2074-2075-2076-2077-2078-2079-2080, all S mint \$2 ea. 2081-2082-2083-2084-2085-2086-2087-2088-2089-2090, all S mint \$2 ea. 2091-2092-2093-2094-2095-2096-2097-2098-2099-2100, all S mint \$2 ea. 2101-2102-2103-2104-2105-2106-2107-2108-2109-2110, all S mint \$2 ea. 2111-2112-2113-2114-2115-2116-2117-2118-2119-2120, all S mint \$2 ea. 2121-2122-2123-2124-2125-2126-2127-2128-2129-2130, all S mint \$2 ea. 2131-2132-2133-2134-2135-2136-2137-2138-2139-2140, all S mint \$2 ea. 2141-2142-2143-2144-2145-2146-2147-2148-2149-2150, all S mint \$2 ea. 2151-2152-2153-2154-2155-2156-2157-2158-2159-2160, all S mint \$2 ea. 2161-2162-2163-2164-2165-2166-2167-2168-2169-2170, all S mint \$2 ea. 2171-2172-2173-2174-2175-2176-2177-2178-2179-2180, all S mint \$2 ea. 2181-2182-2183-2184-2185-2186-2187-2188-2189-2190, all S mint \$2 ea. 2191-2192-2193-2194-2195-2196-2197-2198-2199-2200, all S mint \$2 ea. 2201-2202-2203-2204-2205-2206-2207-2208-2209-2210, all S mint \$2 ea. 2211-2212-2213-2214-2215-2216-2217-2218-2219-2220, all S mint \$2 ea. 2221-2222-2223-2224-2225-2226-2227-2228-2229-2230, all S mint \$2 ea. 2231-2232-2233-2234-2235-2236-2237-2238-2239-2240, all S mint \$2 ea. 2241-2242-2243-2244-2245-2246-2247-2248-2249-2250, all S mint \$2 ea. 2251-2252-2253-2254-2255-2256-2257-2258-2259-2260, all S mint \$2 ea. 2261-2262-2263-2264-2265-2266-2267-2268-2269-2270, all S mint \$2 ea. 2271-2272-2273-2274-2275-2276-2277-2278-2279-2280, all S mint \$2 ea. 2281-2282-2283-2284-2285-2286-2287-2288-2289-2290, all S mint \$2 ea. 2291-2292-2293-2294-2295-2296-2297-2298-2299-2300, all S mint \$2 ea. 2301-2302-2303-2304-2305-2306-2307-2308-2309-2310, all S mint \$2 ea. 2311-2312-2313-2314-2315-2316-2317-2318-2319-2320, all S mint \$2 ea. 2321-2322-2323-2324-2325-2326-2327-2328-2329-2330, all S mint \$2 ea. 2331-2332-2333-2334-2335-2336-2337-2338-2339-2340, all S mint \$2 ea. 2341-2342-2343-2344-2345-2346-2347-2348-2349-2350, all S mint \$2 ea. 2351-2352-2353-2354-2355-2356-2357-2358-2359-2360, all S mint \$2 ea. 2361-2362-2363-2364-2365-2366-2367-2368-2369-2370, all S mint \$2 ea. 2371-2372-2373-2374-2375-2376-2377-2378-2379-2380, all S mint \$2 ea. 2381-2382-2383-2384-2385-2386-2387-2388-2389-2390, all S mint \$2 ea. 2391-2392-2393-2394-2395-2396-2397-2398-2399-2400, all S mint \$2 ea. 2401-2402-2403-2404-2405-2406-2407-2408-2409-2410, all S mint \$2 ea. 2411-2412-2413-2414-2415-2416-2417-2418-2419-2420, all S mint \$2 ea. 2421-2422-2423-2424-2425-2426-2427-2428-2429-2430, all S mint \$2 ea. 2431-2432-2433-2434-2435-2436-2437-2438-2439-2440, all S mint \$2 ea. 2441-2442-2443-2444-2445-2446-2447-2448-2449-2450, all S mint \$2 ea. 2451-2452-2453-2454-2455-2456-2457-2458-2459-2460, all S mint \$2 ea. 2461-2462-2463-2464-2465-2466-2467-2468-2469-2470, all S mint \$2 ea. 2471-2472-2473-2474-2475-2476-2477-2478-2479-2480, all S mint \$2 ea. 2481-2482-2483-2484-2485-2486-2487-2488-2489-2490, all S mint \$2 ea. 2491-2492-2493-2494-2495-2496-2497-2498-2499-2500, all S mint \$2 ea. 2501-2502-2503-2504-2505-2506-2507-2508-2509-2510, all S mint \$2 ea. 2511-2512-2513-2514-2515-2516-2517-2518-2519-2520, all S mint \$2 ea. 2521-2522-2523-2524-2525-2526-2527-2528-2529-2530, all S mint \$2 ea. 2531-2532-2533-2534-2535-2536-2537-2538-2539-2540, all S mint \$2 ea. 2541-2542-2543-2544-2545-2546-2547-2548-2549-2550, all S mint \$2 ea. 2551-2552-2553-2554-2555-2556-2557-2558-2559-2560, all S mint \$2 ea. 2561-2562-2563-2564-2565-2566-2567-2568-2569-2570, all S mint \$2 ea. 2571-2572-2573-2574-2575-2576-2577-2578-2579-2580, all S mint \$2 ea. 2581-2582-2583-2584-2585-2586-2587-2588-2589-2590, all S mint \$2 ea. 2591-2592-2593-2594-2595-2596-2597-2598-2599-2600, all S mint \$2 ea. 2601-2602-2603-2604-2605-2606-2607-2608-2609-2610, all S mint \$2 ea. 2611-2612-2613-2614-2615-2616-2617-2618-2619-2620, all S mint \$2 ea. 2621-2622-2623-2624-2625-2626-2627-2628-2629-2630, all S mint \$2 ea. 2631-2632-2633-2634-2635-2636-2637-2638-2639-2640, all S mint \$2 ea. 2641-2642-2643-2644-2645-2646-2647-2648-2649-2650, all S mint \$2 ea. 2651-2652-2653-2654-2655-2656-2657-2658-2659-2660, all S mint \$2 ea. 2661-2662-2663-2664-2665-2666-2667-2668-2669-2670, all S mint \$2 ea. 2671-2672-2673-2674-2675-2676-2677-2678-2679-2680, all S mint \$2 ea. 2681-2682-2683-2684-2685-2686-2687-2688-2689-2690, all S mint \$2 ea. 2691-2692-2693-2694-2695-2696-2697-2698-2699-2700, all S mint \$2 ea. 2701-2702-2703-2704-2705-2706-2707-2708-2709-2710, all S mint \$2 ea. 2711-2712-2713-2714-2715-2716-2717-2718-2719-2720, all S mint \$2 ea. 2721-2722-2723-2724-2725-2726-2727-2728-2729-2730, all S mint \$2 ea. 2731-2732-2733-2734-2735-2736-2737-2738-2739-2740, all S mint \$2 ea. 2741-2742-2743-2744-2745-2746-2747-2748-2749-2750, all S mint \$2 ea. 2751-2752-2753-2754-2755-2756-2757-2758-2759-2760, all S mint \$2 ea. 2761-2762-2763-2764-2765-2766-2767-2768-2769-2770, all S mint \$2 ea. 2771-2772-2773-2774-2775-2776-2777-2778-2779-2780, all S mint \$2 ea. 2781-2782-2783-2784-2785-2786-2787-2788-2789-2790, all S mint \$2 ea. 2791-2792-2793-2794-2795-2796-2797-2798-2799-2800, all S mint \$2 ea. 2801-2802-2803-2804-2805-2806-2807-2808-2809-2810, all S mint \$2 ea. 2811-2812-2813-2814-2815-2816-2817-2818-2819-2820, all S mint \$2 ea. 2821-2822-2823-2824-2825-2826-2827-2828-2829-2830, all S mint \$2 ea. 2831-2832-2833-2834-2835-2836-2837-2838-2839-2840, all S mint \$2 ea. 2841-2842-2843-2844-2845-2846-2847-2848-2849-2850, all S mint \$2 ea. 2851-2852-2853-2854-2855-2856-2857-2858-2859-2860, all S mint \$2 ea. 2861-2862-2863-2864-2865-2866-2867-2868-2869-2870, all S mint \$2 ea. 2871-2872-2873-2874-2875-2876-2877-2878-2879-2880, all S mint \$2 ea. 2881-2882-2883-2884-2885-2886-2887-2888-2889-2890, all S mint \$2 ea. 2891-2892-2893-2894-2895-2896-2897-2898-2899-2900, all S mint \$2 ea. 2901-2902-2903-2904-2905-2906-2907-2908-2909-2910, all S mint \$2 ea. 2911-2912-2913-2914-2915-2916-2917-2918-2919-2920, all S mint \$2 ea. 2921-2922-2923-2924-2925-2926-2927-2928-2929-2930, all S mint \$2 ea. 2931-2932-2933-2934-2935-2936-2937-2938-2939-2940, all S mint \$2 ea. 2941-2942-2943-2944-2945-2946-2947-2948-2949-2950, all S mint \$2 ea. 2951-2952-2953-2954-2955-2956-2957-2958-2959-2960, all S mint \$2 ea. 2961-2962-2963-2964-2965-2966-2967-2968-2969-2970, all S mint \$2 ea. 2971-2972-2973-2974-2975-2976-2977-2978-2979-2980, all S mint \$2 ea. 2981-2982-2983-2984-2985-2986-2987-2988-2989-2990, all S mint \$2 ea. 2991-2992-2993-2994-2995-2996-2997-2998-2999-3000, all S mint \$2 ea. 3001-3002-3003-3004-3005-3006-3007-3008-3009-3010, all S mint \$2 ea. 3011-3012-3013-3014-3015-3016-3017-3018-3019-3020, all S mint \$2 ea. 3021-3022-3023-3024-3025-3026-3027-3028-3029-3030, all S mint \$2 ea. 3031-3032-3033-3034-3035-3036-3037-3038-3039-3040, all S mint \$2 ea. 3041-3042-3043-3044-3045-3046-3047-3048-3049-3050, all S mint \$2 ea. 3051-3052-3053-3054-3055-3056-3057-3058-3059-3060, all S mint \$2 ea. 3061-3062-3063-3064-3065-3066-3067-3068-3069-3070, all S mint \$2 ea. 3071-3072-3073-3074-3075-3076-3077-3078-3079-3080, all S mint \$2 ea. 3081-3082-3083-3084-3085-3086-3087-3088-3089-3090, all S mint \$2 ea. 3091-3092-3093-3094-3095-3096-3097-3098-3099-3100, all S mint \$2 ea. 3101-3102-3103-3104-3105-3106-3107-3108-3109-3110, all S mint \$2 ea. 3111-3112-3113-3114-3115-3116-3117-3118-3119-3120, all S mint \$2 ea. 3121-3122-3123-3124-3125-3126-3127-3128-3129-3130, all S mint \$2 ea. 3131-3132-3133-3134-3135-3136-3137-3138-3139-3140, all S mint \$2 ea. 3141-3142-3143-3144-3145-3146-3147-3148-3149-3150, all S mint \$2 ea. 3151-3152-3153-3154-3155-3156-3157-3158-3159-3160, all S mint \$2 ea. 3161-3162-3163-3164-3165-3166-3167-3168-3169-3170, all S mint \$2 ea. 3171-3172-3173-3174-3175-3176-3177-3178-3179-3180, all S mint \$2 ea. 3181-3182-3183-3184-3185-3186-3187-3188-3189-3190, all S mint \$2 ea. 3191-3192-3193-3194-3195-3196-3197-3198-3199-3200, all S mint \$2 ea. 3201-3202-3203-3204-3205-3206-3207-3208-3209-3210, all S mint \$2 ea. 3211-3212-3213-3214-3215-3216-3217-3218-3219-3220, all S mint \$2 ea. 3221-3222-3223-3224-3225-3226-3227-3228-3229-3230, all S mint \$2 ea. 3231-3232-3233-3234-3235-3236-3237-3238-3239-3240, all S mint \$2 ea. 3241-3242-3243-3244-3245-3246-3247-3248-3249-3250, all S mint \$2 ea. 3251-3252-3253-3254-3255-3256-3257-3258-3259-3260, all S mint \$2 ea. 3261-3262-3263-3264-3265-3266-3267-3268-3269-3270, all S mint \$2 ea. 3271-3272-3273-3274-3275-3276-3277-3278-3279-3280, all S mint \$2 ea. 3281-3282-3283-3284-3285-3286-3287-3288-3289-3290, all S mint \$2 ea. 3291-3292-3293-3294-3295-3296-3297-3298-3299-3300, all S mint \$2 ea. 3301-3302-3303-3304-3305-3306-3307-3308-3309-3310, all S mint \$2 ea. 3311-3312-3313-3314-3315-3316-3317-3318-3319-3320, all S mint \$2 ea. 3321-3322-3323-3324-3325-3326-3327-3328-3329-3330, all S mint \$2 ea. 3331-3332-3333-3334-3335-3336-3337-3338-3339-3340, all S mint \$2 ea. 3341-3342-3343-3344-3345-3346-3347-3348-3349-3350, all S mint \$2 ea. 3351-3352-3353-3354-3355-3356-3357-3358-3359-3360, all S mint \$2 ea. 3361-3362-3363-3364-3365-3366-3367-3368-3369-3370, all S mint \$2 ea. 3371-3372-3373-3374-3375-3376-3377-3378-3379-3380, all S mint \$2 ea. 3381-3382-3383-3384-3385-3386-3387-3388-3389-3390, all S mint \$2 ea. 3391-3392-3393-3394-3395-3396-3397-3398-3399-3400, all S mint \$2 ea. 3401-3402-3403-3404-3405-3406-3407-3408-3409-3410, all S mint \$2 ea. 3411-3412-3413-3414-3415-3416-3417-3418-3419-3420, all S mint \$2 ea. 3421-3422-3423-3424-3425-3426-3427-3428-3429-3430, all S mint \$2 ea. 3431-3432-3433-3434-3435-3436-3437-3438-3439-3440, all S mint \$2 ea. 3441-3442-3443-3444-3445-3446-3447-3448-3449-3450, all S mint \$2 ea. 3451-3452-3453-3454-3455-3456-3457-3458-3459-3460, all S mint \$2 ea. 3461-3462-3463-3464-3465-3466-3467-3468-3469-3470, all S mint \$2 ea. 3471-3472-3473-3474-3475-3476-3477-3478-3479-3480, all S mint \$2 ea. 3481-3482-3483-3484-3485-3486-3487-3488-3489-3490, all S mint \$2 ea. 3491-3492-3493-3494-3495-3496-3497-3498-3499-3500, all S mint \$2 ea. 3501-3502-3503-3504-3505-3506-3507-3508-3509-3510, all S mint \$2 ea. 3511-3512-3513-3514-3515-3516-3517-3518-3519-3520, all S mint \$2 ea. 3521-3522-3523-3524-3525-3526-3527-3528-3529-3530, all S mint \$2 ea. 3531-3532-3533-3534-3535-3536-3537-3538-3539-3540, all S mint \$2 ea. 3541-3542-3543-3544-3545-3546-3547-3548-3549-3550, all S mint \$2 ea. 3551-3552-3553-3554-3555-3556-3557-3558-3559-3560, all S mint \$2 ea. 3561-3562-3563-3564-3565-3566-3567-3568-3569-3570, all S mint \$2 ea. 3571-3572-3573-3574-3575-3576-3577-3578-3579-3580, all S mint \$2 ea. 3581-3582-3583-3584-3585-3586-3587-3588-3589-3590, all S mint \$2 ea. 3591-3592-3593-3594-3595-3596-3597-3598-3599-3600, all S mint \$2 ea. 3601-3602-3603-3604-3605-3606-3607-3608-3609-3610, all S mint \$2 ea. 3611-3612-3613-3614-3615-3616-3617-3618-3619-3620, all S mint \$2 ea. 3621-3622-3623-3624-3625-3626-3627-3628-3629-3630, all S mint \$2 ea. 3631-3632-3633-3634-3635-3636-3637-3638-3639-3640, all S mint \$2 ea. 3641-3642-3643-3644-3645-3646-3647-3648-3649-3650, all S mint \$2 ea. 3651-3652-3653-3654-3655-3656-3657-3658-3659-3660, all S mint \$2 ea. 3661-3662-3663-3664-3665-3666-3667-3668-3669-3670, all S mint \$2 ea. 3671-3672-3673-3674-3675-3676-3677-3678-3679-3680, all S mint \$2 ea. 3681-3682-3683-3684-3685-3686-3687-3688-3689-3690, all S mint \$2 ea. 3691-3692-3693-3694-3695-3696-3697-3698-3699-3700, all S mint \$2 ea. 3701-3702-3703-3704-3705-3706-3707-3708-3709-3710, all S mint \$2 ea. 3711-3712-3713-3714-3715-3716-3717-3718-3719-3720, all S mint \$2 ea. 3721-3722-3723-3724-3725-3726-3727-3728-3729-3730, all S mint \$2 ea. 3731-3732-3733-3734-3735-3736-3737-3738-3739-3740, all S mint \$2 ea. 3741-3742-3743-3744-3745-3746-3747-3748-3749-3750, all S mint \$2 ea. 3751-3752-3753-3754-3755-3756-3757-3758-3759-3760, all S mint \$2 ea. 3761-3762-3763-3764-3765-3766-3767-3768-3769-3770, all S mint \$2 ea. 3771-3772-3773-3774-3775-3776-3777-3778-3779-3780, all S mint \$2 ea. 3781-3782-3783-3784-3785-3786-3787-3788-3789-3790, all S mint \$2 ea. 3791-3792-3793-3794-3795-3796-3797-3798-3799-3800, all S mint \$2 ea. 3801-3802-3803-3804-3805-3806-3807-3808-3809-3810, all S mint \$2 ea. 3811-3812-3813-3814-3815-3816-3817-3818-3819-3820, all S mint \$2 ea. 3821-3822-3823-3824-3825-3826-3827-3828-3829-3830, all S mint \$2 ea. 3831-3832-3833-3834-3835-3836-3837-3838-3839-3840, all S mint \$2 ea. 3841-3842-3843-3844-3845-3846-3847-3848-3849-3850, all S mint \$2 ea. 3851-3852-3853-3854-3855-3856-3857-3858-3859-3860, all S mint \$2 ea. 3861-3862-3863-3864-3865-3866-3867-3868-3869-3870, all S mint \$2 ea. 3871-3872-3873-3874-3875-3876-3877-3878-3879-3880, all S mint \$2 ea. 3881-3882-3883-3884-3885-3886-3887-3888-3889-3890, all S mint \$2 ea. 3891-3892-3893-3894-3895-3896-3897-3898-3899-3900, all S mint \$2 ea. 3901-3902-3903-3904-3905-3906-3907-3908-3909-3910, all S mint \$2 ea. 3911-3912-3913-3914-3915-39

QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis.

If you wish reply by mail,
enclose 10c to defray costs.



Question:

I have an old coin that is very worn (rubbing enclosed). Can you help me, and what is the U. S. value of an 1838 half dollar in good condition?

—W. S., Wisconsin

Answer:

From what I can see of the illustration, it seems to be a bronze coin of Norway, probably a "skilling." The 1838 half in good condition is worth 75c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing two pencil rubbings of coins and would appreciate any information regarding the identity and value.

—Mrs. W. H. S., New Hampshire

Answer:

The coins you have are: 1, a Civil War token valued at 10c. 2, a Spanish 1 Real coin of Charles III coined at the Mexico City Mint.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I wish to know estimated value of these coins. The first ten coins are English.

1. Silver Crown, 1821, good.
2. Shilling, 1900, uncirculated.
3. Shilling, 1875, with small 10 above date, very good.
4. Six pence 1871, with small 5 above date, fine.
5. Four pence, 1855, extremely fine.
6. Three pence, 1856, very fine.
7. Penny, 1874, with H below date, fine.
8. Penny, 1831, very good.
9. Farthing, 1838, good.
10. Farthing, 1826, very good.
11. Canadian silver dollar, 1935, legend on obverse, Georgivs V Rex Imperator Anno XXV, extremely fine.
12. Canadian nickel, 1937, with a dot (not a maple leaf) by seven in date.
13. Canadian five cent, silver, 1907, extremely fine.
14. Canadian ten cents, 1870, very fine.
15. Prince Edward Island, one cent, 1871, good.
16. Nova Scotia, half cent, 1861, extremely fine.
17. Newfoundland, ten cents, 1903, very good.

18. French two franc piece, 1868, Napoleon III, Barre and letter A below portrait.

—W. A. B., Wisconsin

Answer:

Your coins are worth as follows: 1, \$1; 2, 25c; 3, cannot identify; 4, 10c; 5, 20c; 6, 5c; 7, 8, 9, 10, 5c each; 11, \$1; 12, 5c; 13 and 14 face value; 15, 16, 5c each; 17, 20c; 18, 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Would like advice on proof coins. Is there only one set, or does each Mint issue the set with mint mark? Can they be purchased any time during the year of issue? If I can buy a set which Mint would I contact and to whom would remittance be made?

—Mrs. E. W. N., Pennsylvania

Answer:

Proof sets are issued at the Philadelphia mint only, and can be secured by writing the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa. Send registered cash, certified check or money order for \$2.10 per set. The current year is only available there and earlier ones will have to be purchased on the open market.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Enclosed please find imprint of an old coin. I would very much like to know of its value, if any.

Miss H. H., Pennsylvania

Answer:

Badly worn English penny. No value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me the value, if any, of a Canadian half penny token with picture of a ship. On the opposite side is "To Facilitate Trade," and a picture of an old plow. Date is 1833.

—P. B., Pennsylvania

Answer:

The value is 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me if an 1880 silver dollar in perfect condition is worth more than face value.

—J. V. S., Illinois

Answer:

The Treasury Department is still releasing a great many silver dollars dated from 1876 and up. A great

many of these are, in brilliant, uncirculated condition for they have been in their vaults for many decades. Consequently very few silver dollars dated after 1878 are worth any premium. Unfortunately your 1880 is one of these.

—C. F., New York

Question:

These are rubbings of two separate coins and I can find nothing about them. Can you help me, please? They are either copper or brass. The one on the right seems to have had a hole bored through it.

—V. W. A., Michigan

Answer:

Middle 19th Century bronze of Palestine, very common.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What disposition should a collector make of a hundred old copper coins worn so smooth that they have no numismatic value, one-half U.S. and the balance foreign coin?

—E. H. M., Massachusetts

Answer:

As such coins of little value might I suggest that you hand them out as interesting curiosities to young boys with an eye to numismatics. Frequently a simple coin such as these are, are the beginnings of great future coin collectors.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a thin gold coin about 1/2 in diameter. On one side it has liberty head bust surrounded by seven stars. On the other side it has a wreath with this inscription "Dollar" and "1863." Will you kindly give me its valuation and history.

—A. L., Rhode Island

Answer:

The coin is probably a California gold quarter dollar and if genuine worth \$2.00.

—C. F., New York

(Continued on page 124)

Correction

A typographical error on page of the June issue lists the price of the Whitman coin folders at \$1 rather than the correct price of \$1.50.

WHITMAN Hobby Helps for Coin Collectors



Latin knowledge is not necessary . . . most coins are not expensive! So, go ahead and enjoy this fascinating field!

Ask for these at your favorite hobby dealer

This new book proves how easy it is to read and date Roman Imperial Coins . . . even for beginners! Without a knowledge of Latin, and without great expense you can become an adept collector of these coins. In 128 pages this clearly written book covers methods for determining dates; explanations and charts which are brief and easy to understand; and, scores of illustrations adjacent to descriptions. Sturdily bound. Gold stamped board cover. Size $5\frac{1}{8} \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Ask at your hobby dealer.

\$2.00



Whitman Coin Folders

The exact coin group you want is immediately available to you at a glance when you use Whitman coin folders. Inexpensive but convenient way to protect and classify your coins. Made for 30 different U. S. coin types from one cent to dollar values, and for four Canadian coins—large cents, small cents, silver 5 cents and nickels. Folders fold flat to book size for storing.

EACH **35c**



Whitman Coin Handbook 11th Edition

Your coin collection gives you more fun, more satisfaction when you have this Whitman Handbook ready to supply desired information on: How to locate mint marks; How to determine the condition and value of coins; Mint records—history of mints; Premium prices, and other features. Contains illustrations of Commemorative and regular types.

\$1.00



Guide Book of U. S. Coins

Every U. S. Coin from 1616 to 1950 is cataloged in this "Best Seller" Whitman guide book. Bound in cloth, with gold stamped cover, this book packs 256 pages with helpful, authoritative information for coin collectors . . . a brief history of American coinage, fully illustrated facts on individual coins, plus standard prices of each.

\$1.75

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY • RACINE, WISCONSIN

Division of Western Printing and Lithographing Company, One of the World's Largest Color Lithographers

Quiz Corner

(Continued from page 124)

Question:

I have been reading your quotations in values. Would like to know if there are any dealers selling coins which you list at face value, that can be purchased at a small mark-up. In other words, some of the coins you quote face value are quoted at 100 percent or more above face value. Also how can you purchase rolls of coins direct from the Treasury Department?

—G. T., Pennsylvania

Answer:

You have inquired into the delicate law of supply and demand. Many dealers will ask this and that price for some coins I list at face but whether they sell many at that premium is doubtful, and I'm quite certain that a good many will take less than the asking price. You see, if you go to a dealer to purchase coins that are still available in circulation, you must expect to pay a premium to him for the trouble of his being able to supply you easily—rather than your spending hours searching through hundreds of coins to find them. Now, such pieces are common, and that dealer probably has dozens alike, he'll sell to you at a premium, but if you want to sell to him he won't be interested for he has enough, hence the face value. The prices we quote are those that a dealer will pay.

You can only secure rolls of coins from dealers who specialize in getting them from their local mints or Federal Reserve banks. Two sets of all mints and denominations can be secured from the Treasury Department.

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY: Bank note reporters, counterfeit detectors, and related publications—1825-1885 — Wm. H. Dillistin, 443 E 39th St., Paterson 4, N. J. ap126361

GOLD COINS—American and Foreign for my personal collection.—Ira Nelson, 80 Batterymarch St., Boston, mhl124201

HIGHEST PRICES PAID for gold coins, rare coins, worthwhile collections. Prompt payment.—John Ziegler, Rt. 2, Fremont, Ohio. 4122511

WANTED: U. S. GOLD COINS for my private collection. Reference: Kanawha Banking & Trust Co.—D. C. Shonk, 801 Kan. Bk. & Tr. Bldg., Charleston, W. Va. je65

WANTED: Gold coins and early half dollar. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1961, Charleston 27, W. Va. my124201

I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS List 10c.—Romey, Box 231, Bluffton Indiana je12238

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—Harold L. Bowen, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 2, Michigan. je122511

WANTED: Confederate currency, obsolete bank notes, coin collections. For sale: 1954 edition Whitman's Handbook, \$1; 7th edition Guidebook, \$1.75.—Cook Coins, Jackson 5, Mississippi. au3458

ment, Washington, D.C., if ordered before April 1st each year. Write them for details.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Is it permissible to solder coins onto other materials? I am building a clock and want to solder some old halves onto the face of the pendulum-bob.

—L. S. H., Illinois

Answer:

In the eyes of the government to solder a coin is to mutilate it. Up to recently, the government did not allow any kinds of coins to be mutilated, foreign or U.S.

I understand that this restriction has been lifted from Foreign coins and only applies to those struck by the U. S.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a Jefferson nickel which has a Jefferson head on both sides, the only difference is that on one side is the year, 1942, and on the other side is the year 1943. Could there be any value to this coin?

—O. B., Arkansas

Answer:

The double headed coin you have is a mutilation done by an unscrupulous person desiring a double headed coin for matching odds and evens, etc. (to cheat). It is made by sawing two nickels in half and carefully sweating the two "heads" together, same probably was done with the two tails. A careful examination of the edge will show up the fine crack where they were sweated together, usually such coins do not ring either.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a 1929 series twenty dollar bill No. D002370A "National Currency" drawn on the First National Bank in Oskosh, Wisc. Is this a rare bill, Would appreciate information concerning it.

—W. D. K., California

Answer:

The note bears a small premium if it is in crisp new unfolded condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Enclosed find rubbing of a coin which I would like described. Please tell me the name and the value.

—B. S., Florida

Answer:

Your pencil rubbing is one of a Crown of William III of England. Value, about \$5.

—C. F., New York

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for sale All countries.—List for stamp.—Kenneth Lee, 623 Security Bldg., Glendale 3, Calif. aj12380

SEND FOR FREE 64-page illustration Coin Catalog. I have everything in coins. I publish fine Sale Catalogs of fine Coin Collections. These are also sent Free to my Customers. Write me prices you want to buy or sell. I will pay you.—B. Max Mehl, 451 Mel Building, Fort Worth, Texas. Oldest and largest Coin Firm in the U. S. Established 50 years in the same business; in the same place. aj12380

U. S. COINS, bought and sold. Will appreciate your want list of date of coins wanted in the U. S. series from 1800 to gold pieces.—W. O. White, 411 S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y. ap12234

LARGE AND CHOICE stock of U. S. coins. Lincoln cents to halves. Send for price list No. 4.—A. Mandel, 1181 Church St. Station, New York 8, N. Y. au308

MY LIST of coins and paper money and two foreign coins for 15c.—Herbert Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Florida. aj386

START YOUR COLLECTION NOW Silver dollars: Fine to Unc. 5-49.50, 10-115.50. (All different).—Gerald Schmidt, 12114 N. Wahatch, Colorado Springs, Colo. au389

FOR SALE: Genuine Confederate \$1 together with flag and decal. Send for price list No. 1, Box 617, Baronne St., New Orleans, La. f12261

INDIAN HEAD CENTS, 10 all different \$1.13, \$2.25, \$3.30, \$4. Postpaid.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. au12335

OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. Free list and prices of current coins I need.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. aj12364

FOREIGN COIN PACKETS 50c, \$1, \$3 each, descriptive lists free. Envelopes, albums, catalogs, books, other supplies for coin collectors, send for listings.—Webb, 2200 Quintara, San Francisco 16, Calif. mh12455

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS \$6.00, 10 different foreign cents \$4. U. S. Coins \$1. Parker, 1254 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. o637

MANY TYPES of United States coins for sale! List free for stamp.—The Od Shop, 107 Broad, Angola, Ind. j1940

Genuine Confederate \$10 bill and 2 Civil War cents, all for \$1.—Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans 12, La. f12211

150 different foreign coins, \$4.50 100 uncirculated countries, 50c. Send for free list.—Jolie, Box 19A, Rugby Brooklyn 3, N. Y. au308

GOLD COINS. American \$5, \$10, \$20, \$100 above double face value. M. C. Plus Inc. and P.P.—Kurtz Coin Shop, 715 Central Ave., Far Rockaway, N. Y. au301

FOR SALE: Very good to excellent U. S. gold coins of the 1800's: \$5, \$10, \$20, at 2 1/2 face, postpaid and insured.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. aj346

Question:

Please give me some information on the enclosed coin. It is an old 1673 copper coin, struck off center. One side resembles a goat with date R S. 1673. This is upside down to the other side. The other side resembles a lion standing on hind legs with large crown on its head. Can you let me know what it is?

—H. F. S., Pennsylvania

Answer:

This seems to be a 1/6 Ore coin of Norway, 1673, under occupation of Denmark.

—C. F., New York

Question:

1952 Philadelphia Mint Lincoln cent has a die break extending from the rim between the letters W and E, down through Lincoln's hair. Have not heard anything about this but have three or four coins. Were there many?

—J. E. S., Indiana

Answer:

It is impossible to determine how many die broken cents of a variety have been struck, for it is impossible for the mint to determine such errors completely. When they are detected the die is removed and a new one put in. Only years of patient waiting and study will ultimately determine whether this particular die break variety will be rare.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing rubbings of two coins I have. I would like to know their value. Can you give me any information on the one dated 1788, and to what the PMCo stands for?

—J. Q. S., Maryland

Answer:

Number one is a Lady Godiva, Coventry token, value about \$2.50. The other is an English 18th century merchants token. I would venture to say the PMCo might be the initials of the merchant; value about 50c.

—C. F., New York

Money of Yesteryear

(Continued from page 121)

ustria for a coin near the value of 38 florin piece. The Coinage Committee favored the adoption of the coin and in so far as the eagle and other emblems of our country, I decided to call this new coin a stella and should have the value of four dollars. Several varieties of the stella were made in 1879 and 1880.

Charles Barber and were struck in gold, copper, aluminum and white metal. Although this coin met favor with the Coinage Committee it did not meet the approval of the Congress.

The familiar St. Gaudens Double Eagle is also a result of a pattern change with minute changes.

As I wrote in the beginning there are so many of these interesting coins there is not time nor space at this writing to delve further.



THE THIRTY - NINER

By HARRY BOSLEY

E. O. Bragg, is a kind old gentleman at the Kansas City Board of Trade. Retired from active service, but trading smiles with everyone, he is surrounded by pleasant memories of yesteryear. Among the pictures hanging on the walls of his office is a cartoon with a story behind it.

During his active years, Mr. Bragg

was always betting fellow members of the Board of Trade, thirty-nine cents that the grain market would go up, or down. This drawing surrounded by thirty-nine Lincoln cents, shows Mr. Bragg dreaming of his thirty-nine cent bets. Leave it to Mr. Bragg, he never did brag.



Early American Coins

An old coin, a collector's item, which catalogs at \$30, was found recently at Fort Adams, Newport, R.I., by Joseph Silvia of Fall River, Mass.

Silvia, a Naval War College grounds keeper, at Newport, R.I., with others, was planting trees and shrubs near the officers' quarters at Fort Adams when he uncovered what he believed to be a soil-covered penny. He offered it one of the other men working with him, and it was refused. He then cleaned the coin, found that it was silver and not copper; and it turned out to be a six pence piece, dated 1652.

His curiosity whetted by the find, Silvia who first believed it might be an old military button visited the Newport Historical Society and then

the Redwood Library to check its authenticity. At the latter he learned the history of the coin. The sixpence he believes was one of the earliest to be issued in this country, coming out of a mint established in Boston, Mass., in 1651-52 set up under the authority of the General Court of the colony. Silvia said he learned that John Hull of Boston, a silversmith, was in charge of the mint, and received one shilling for every twenty shillings minted for his trouble in making them. The story goes that Hull became quite wealthy from the business.

The pine tree on the reverse side of the coin was one of three designs common to the early coins in Massachusetts, others having a willow, or an oak tree instead of the pine.

THE MART

Rates: 8c per word;
Larger type 12c per word.

MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Fla. s3027

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or Southwestern State. Broadbroads, letters, diaries, business ledgers, early newspapers, theatre programs, anything else.—Argonaut, 336 Kearny St., San Francisco, Calif. au128402

WANTED: Old correspondence—stamp envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information. B. Ball, 1135 du Pont Blvd., Miami, Fla. o6523

CIGARETTE, TOBACCO, candy cards. Advertising or issued by tobacco companies.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pennsylvania. au12698

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n122741

CANES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooke, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n122741

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—E. M. Salmonson, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. au3272

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. s12698

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Kowal, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. n6544

WANTED: Masks of the world. Indian, African, Oceanic, Mexican or Eskimo. Will buy or trade.—Alpert, 2116 68 St., Brooklyn 4, N. Y. s3863

WILL PAY CASH for cylinder phonographs and records, also horn type phonographs and anything pertaining to early phonographs. Write, Pollard, 1400 Old Hwy 1, Santa Cruz, Calif. s3614

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS bought.—G. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. s6215

WANTED. Automobile items, anything pertaining to the Auto Era: car accessories, literature, also Americana catalogs that describe goods.—B. J. Pollard, 14000 Prairie, Detroit 38, Mich. n6238

OLD POST CARDS: Will pay average \$2 to \$3 per 500 plus postage. Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. au3023

ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—I. Warshaw, 752 Westend Ave., New York 26, N. Y. s3852

I BUY magic trick, hocus pocus, and also memory books, pamphlets, etc.—Morris N. Young, M.D., 170 Broadway, Suite 714, New York 38, N. Y. s3614

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS WANTED.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, ap12844

WANTED: Fire engine antiques, firemen's relics, no toys. Write, P. O. Box 77, North Postal Annex, Boston 14, Mass. s3882

WANTED: Old American or English made hunting knives and Bowie type knives with 8 to 15 inch blades marked Green River Knife Works, TX; Sheffield or with pictures or mottoes engraved on the blade. Also any with ivory or stag handles. Must be old. Describe and price in first letter.—R. E. Thornton, 1853 West Third St., Dayton, Ohio. jly3449

WANTED: U. S. coin glass, unusual scullie shaving mugs, old German steins, miniature lamps, china head dolls all old, rare U. S. coins and gold. Describe fully giving best price.—James Winquist, 624 Ashland Ave., Rockford, Ill. au12955

WANTED: Left handed mustache cup and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Mateer, 437 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. o6445

OLD STAMPS WANTED: I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 1c green Franklin stamps, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 ea. unused). Send loc for illustrated folder showing amazing prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon Baker, (12-54) Elyria, Ohio. Advertiser in HOBBIES since 1931. s3776

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran badges wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. j12233

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Mohr, Conococheague, Md., Maryland. au124201

WANTED: Louis XV dinner knives and teaspoons; 14" or larger ruffled satin glass bowls.—Dealer, 1231 W. Hilldebrand, San Antonio, Tex. s4405

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelains, figures and plaques.—Beverly R. Winger, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. s12698

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owners' occupation and name. Liberal prices.—Fred Patterson, P. O. Box 630, Atlanta, Georgia. o123801

WANTED: Old or unusual camera. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. mh126121

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Folklore in Western China

(Continued from page 132)

marriage, swords, the harvest, the year, . . . and even the sound of the ceremonial drum are considered to be living things.

"A year is a living creature with a head like that of a human being. Mountains have heads, feet, hands, eyes, ears, hearts, breasts, veins, and arteries. A plain may be male or female and has mouth, a heart, veins, arteries, and sinews. The sun and moon have parents. Rocks and stones are male and female, grow, have offspring, and can speak. Thunder is a living creature, in size and shape like a rooster. It is small but powerful, and its call is the noise of thunder. It has a knife of fire, and when it throws this there is lightning.

"The Ch'uan Miao find it natural to say that all things, even those that are inanimate, are alive and have lives, but they find it difficult and less natural to say that inanimate things have souls, although lives are active, intelligent, and have eyes."

Their ideas have been influenced somewhat by the neighboring Chinese, especially in respect to reverence for ancestors; nevertheless, the Ch'uan Miao have their own concepts of the supernatural world.

On top of the sky, Dr. Graham relates, is the "ancient level land" where the souls of the dead remain with their ancestors after death. Here there are no hills to climb and neither sickness nor death. The sun shines every day. People do not farm, but gather fruit and berries in the forests, which are much as the forests were on the earth in very ancient times. At the memorial and calendar festivals each year the living descendants of the spirits in the level land provide them with food, clothing, money, and wine. Formerly, the people believe, there was a ladder connecting earth and sky, but in recent times, they say, this connection has been broken.

"Under the earth," says Dr. Graham, "is another world, a land of dwarfs who are about two feet tall. They live much like people on the earth, having houses, farms, a king, soldiers, and a government. One Miao once entered this world through a natural cave in a mountain and remained so long that many of the people on earth had forgotten him. Another fell through a hole in the floor of the emperor's palace and after two or three years was able to crawl back onto the earth through a crack caused by a drought.

"Some of the stories speak of a dark place inhabited by demons and presided over by a demon king. Demons are the souls of human beings,

or of birds, reptiles, or inanimate things. If a deceased person has no descendants or if his descendants are unfilial and do not meet his needs by making the customary offerings, he becomes a demon and harms people. The idols in Chinese temples are regarded as demons. There is one devil called *glang da lo* who is so big he can step from one mountaintop to another and from earth to the sky. He can kill a person with one blow of his thumb."

One of the Ch'uan Miao deities is called Ye Seo. He is kindly, merciful, and just and helps people, especially the poor, who are in trouble. He is often seen in the clouds and can easily make himself visible or invisible. Now, Mr. Graham points out, in the Chinese province of Canton, the former abode of the Ch'uan Miao, the name Jesus is pronounced Ye Seo. Does the use of the same name in the western mountains indicate some ancient contacts with Christianity, he asks? He is unable, however, to establish any certain connection.

Certain kinds of trees are sometimes worshipped as deities. They generally are trees on hills or mountains that are old and do not shed their leaves in winter. A strange custom is the worship of the door. This worship is an elaborate ceremony in which a pig is killed. A warty toad is believed to possess marvelous powers and to cause hailstorms. During these storms men shoot off guns to frighten the toad. There is a dragon king who lives in a palace beneath a lake.

Tigers, foxes, snakes, banana trees, vines, rats, frogs, cattle, and eels are believed to change into human form and vice versa. Sometimes the animals take on human shape to help people but often it is to do them harm and anyone injured by them must be saved from death by the magician.

He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much; who has enjoyed the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose life was an inspiration; whose memory a benediction.

Bessie Anderson

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Vol. 59, Number 6

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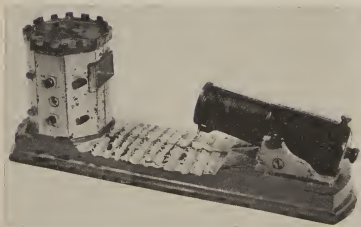
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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

Octagonal Fort Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH



Cannons and guns always have a certain fascination for men and boys. Therefore, it is quite natural that the mechanical bank designers and manufacturers would take advantage of this fact and produce a number of different banks using a cannon or gun. A number of the banks using guns are rather common, such as the Creedmore, William Tell, and the Indian and the Bear. Rare examples having a gun are the Sportsman's Bank and the Lion Hunter. The most common of the banks having a cannon is the Artillery Bank, and among the rarest having a cannon is the Octagonal Fort Bank, No. 31 in our numerical classification.

The bank shown is in excellent original condition with fine paint and no broken or missing parts. It was obtained recently through the good help of J. E. Nevil of Cincinnati, Ohio. Even though the bank is an unusually heavy casting it was apparently subject to easy breakage as any other specimens ever seen by the writer had some parts broken off. Also the paint was usually in bad shape.

The painting of the bank is a little unusual in that it was first painted entirely black and then the other colors applied. These other colors tend to flake and chip off the black base paint with any degree of rough handling. The colors are very attractive, the base being green and the water light green with white capped waves. The cannon is black with a red base and the

fort is grey with brown top and bottom. The cannons protruding from the fort are black with red tipped ends.

The operation of the bank is as follows: A coin is inserted in the end of the cannon barrel, then the lever underneath the end of the barrel is pushed back and it clicks into a locked position. The firing knob at the top of the breach of the cannon is then pressed and the coin is fired into the fort.

Factual background is a real scarcity in the case of the Octagonal Fort Bank. The actual designer and manufacturer are not known. There are no patent papers covering the bank and there are no identifying marks on the bank itself that would be characteristic of any particular manufacturer or designer. There are, however, certain clues to its possible identity and time of manufacture.

In the first place, this bank is apparently a Civil War commemorative item. The fort is octagonal shaped and there is water represented on the bank between the fort and the cannon. This would lead to Fort Sumter and the firing of the first shot in the Civil War. The cannon is of the type that can be seen in Charleston, S. C., today.

Now to the possible source and time of manufacture of the bank. During the 1880's a toy salesman, Major Edward Brueninghausen, sold banks and toys which he had specially manufactured for his trade. He was a Civil War veteran and had entered the toy business around 1875. It's very possible that the Octagonal Fort, as well as a number of the other untraceable banks, were manufactured for and sold by Major Brueninghausen.

In any event, until such time that refutable evidence might turn up it's logical that the Octagonal Fort Bank represents Fort Sumter, was made in the period of 1880, and was sold by Brueninghausen.

Just what name the bank was originally sold under is not known. To the best of the writer's knowledge there have been no old catalogs or similar type of material found that pictured or described the bank. Octagonal Fort is a good descriptive name and easily identifies it from any of the other mechanical banks.

The number of Octagonal Fort Banks in private collections is quite limited and those possessing one are very fortunate.

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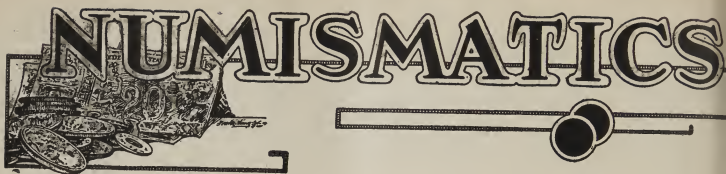
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Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

Several decades ago it was unthought of to put away rolls of uncirculated coins for investment. True, a very few, far-sighted coin collectors did so, and have reaped a very handsome profit from their efforts, but the majority of us never gave it a thought.

I can remember back to the year 1916 (I was only 15 at the time), and my father coming home at Christmas, with a roll of brilliant, uncirculated quarters of the new type, the 1916 Liberty Standing ones. Over the period of the next few months, I spent them! Those coins are now worth, in catalog values, \$125 each, in uncirculated condition.

Even at that early age I was very numismatically minded and can remember talking to others interested in coins about the lightness of the dates on all quarters from 1917 on up through 1923. Each year we used to get rolls of these in brilliant, uncirculated condition at Christmas time and I just liked to keep them because they were so pretty. I would go over them, and can remember, even when they came out whole rolls of the 1918-1919 and 1920's with such light dates as to be hardly readable, right from the Mint. At the time I used to say that they were going to be very rare some day because the dates wore off so easily; still I didn't put any away! Reason probably is that none could imagine how high in value such coins could go.

In those days coins did not bring near what they do today; there weren't as many collectors and the demand was not nearly so great. Then one could buy the choicest proof and uncirculated coins, even more than a hundred years old for just a little more than face. Imagine being able to get an 1856 flying eagle cent for a couple of dollars (proof); twenty

dollar gold pieces in brilliant proof, for \$20.50; Isabella quarters, uncirculated, for 75c; U.S. gold Eagles, uncirculated and proof, dated before 1810, for \$11.00 to \$12.00 each; California \$50 slugs for \$60.

Paper Broken Bank bills were practically thrown away as useless. The collecting of large bills was almost unknown. I can remember seeing a bag of 300 Lafayette dollars that had been in a bank vault for twenty-five years, since 1900, all uncirculated and annually getting more scratches because of the way they were kept! Inventory value \$1 each. Once I was offered, and hesitated to purchase, a pair of 1915 California \$50 gold slugs for \$125 for the pair. Buffalo nickels even then were not too popular, for even when they came out they had a blurred, worn appearance. One of the most difficult things to do is to classify a Buffalo nickel as uncirculated.

One simply cannot detect wear from the designs of the coin. It is hardly fair to call a coin such as this not uncirculated when it has no wear but still does not have its original mint bloom, that glossy lustre that cannot be replaced. I have given this problem much thought and have come to the conclusion that the only way to be fair about the whole thing is to examine carefully the sharp edges of the coin for tiny minute-like scratches that indicate some usage then examine the highlights for the same type tell-tale scratches; these highlights will most likely be smooth as they were when coined, but that smoothness makes it all the easier to see those hair-like scratches. You collectors who like Buffaloes, examine a few, and see how you come out. This difficulty, and their original unpopularity is going to make these the rarest of all of the series of that era,

I think, in perfect gem condition. I do not think they're as high as they will be.

I believe that the rapid rise about fifteen years ago of the Liberty Standing quarters made some think seriously about putting away quantities of uncirculated coins each year as an investment. This habit really began to get under way only about 1934, after the depression years. Some activity along this line was known as early as 1928, but very little before that. From 1934 on, every year has seen more and more collectors putting away rolls of uncirculated coins. Occasionally, there will be a sleeper in a small coinage year but on the whole, even though there are many more collectors than ever, I believe a great many more uncirculated coins are put away each year than there is demand for at the present time. This change should influence the market greatly in the future and I do not see how any recurrence of the rarities of the 19's and 20's can come about again in such a wholesale manner. It has been the habit of roll collectors, to more or less, ignore the Philadelphia coinages, for usually more coins are coined at this mint; even so, this ignoring may cause the Philadelphia coins in uncirculated condition to rise faster than the branch mints, whose coinages have been carefully put away and stored for the future. While it is good to watch the numbers coined, this is not an iron-bound rule that can be followed without exception. Take the 1883 nickels. Legend has it that at the time of their issue, rumor spread all over the country that the 1883 without the word "cents" would become rare because the design was going to be stopped. Reason? Some unscrupulous

people had been gold plating them and passing them for five dollar gold pieces—believe it or not, they look it! The design was changed and the word cents added. But it seems everywhere held on to every 1883 nickel without the word cents. Today, whenever one comes across an old accumulation of coins, there are always practically new 1883 nickels without the word cents in them. Value? Very little, the 1883 with the word cents is always worth more. Now, let's look at the tumber coined of each, without the word cents, 5,479,519; with the word cents 16,032,983.

It isn't too difficult to secure rolls of uncirculated coins from the D and 3 mints, and dealers in Denver and San Francisco have gone into the specialized business of supplying customers throughout the United States with their needs. This has developed into quite a business and they usually charge 10% premium plus the shipping. While the profit is small, the quantity that have entered the field of roll collecting probably make it very profitable. This has not been exploited as to the Philadelphia mint. But watch out for those Philadelphia mint coins! Some are liable to be sleepers. A lot of people are talking about the 1953 Philadelphia mint half dollars right now and I believe the small coinage of these is going to put them up to a good price. And I do not think that too many have been salted away.

Such things go in cycles, however, and who knows, in a few years a few disappointments in such investments may cause the practice to drop. If

this comes about, then is the time to start saving rolls of coins!

I see that the attractive Coronation proof sets issued in Great Britain and her colonies have been rising in price also. The Queen Elizabeth set that originally sold for under \$5 is

(Continued on page 125)

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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis. If you wish reply by mail, enclose 10c to defray costs. Do not mail us coins in question, please.



Question:

In 1943, the year the lead penny was made, is it true there were only one hundred copper pennies made? If so, how much is the 1943 copper penny worth?

—R. D. C., Iowa

Answer:

There is a rumor that a few "freaks" of the 1943 cent exist in bronze, but none were officially minted. There are the zinc copper plated frauds which, however, can be detected by their sound and ring.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me the approximate value, and best place to sell the large paper money listed here.

Five \$1 bills, old, dirty, series of 1923. Washington's picture on them. Two \$1 bills, one new, one old (torn), series of 1899, eagle on the front. One \$1 fair to good condition, series of 1898, History Instructing Youth, Washington monument, 23 names in wreath around border.

Two \$5 bills, Lincoln picture, one series 1923, and one series 1914, both old, worn; one note, one silver certificate. One \$5, series 1899, Indian on front, old, silver certificate. One \$5, new and good condition, crisp, series 1907, U.S. note (K88125611), Pioneer and Dog.

—D. H. V. H., Illinois

Answer:

The following bills must be extremely fine or uncirculated to be worth any premium.

\$5 1923, \$1 1899; fives of 1923 and 1914.

The \$1 1898 History Instructing Youth in fair condition is worth very little premium. The \$5 crisp new and unfolded 1907 is worth from \$7.50 up, depending upon who signed the note.

Paper money is becoming very popular to collect lately, but the notes must be in very excellent condition. Their values are determined by giving the kind of note, series date and who signed them.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Can you identify three coins I have which resemble large copper pennies?

One on coin is a picture of a sailing ship with the words, "Credit, Webster, and Current," placed around the edge, and date, 1841 on the bottom. On the edge of the opposite side the words, "Millions for Defense." In the center, "Not One Cent for Tribute."

The second coin is dated 1837. Seven stars are placed on the left side of the date, six stars on the right. In the center is a woman's head, at the top of the coin are the words "E. Pluribus Unum." On the reverse side of this coin are the words "Millions For Defense, Not One Cent for Tribute."

On the last coin there is a picture of a woman's head with a band around her forehead containing the word "Liberty." There are seven stars around the edge. At the bottom are the words, "Comp. S. Marke." Reverse side of this coin is an eagle with a shield on his breast. Three stars at the top of the coin and three at the bottom. On the left side is the word "Compositions," on the right, "Spiel Marke." The coin is not dated.

—R. J. P., Indiana

Answer:

The first coins you have are known as two varieties of the over fifty known, of the Jackson cents or Hard Times tokens, struck to allay small change shortages of the times. The third is a piece of play money or a paper chip used in the early days as ae counter.

—C. F., New York

Question:

How can one tell an authentic Grant "Star" commemorative? The advertisements qualify description by including such as "broken die," "imperfect chin and tie," and so on.

The Grant "Star" that I have, was sold to me as one that is genuine. The star is not raised as all other parts of the coin are, but is impressed in the metal. I have seen one other that is impressed also, and said to be authentic.

—M. M., Oregon

Answer:

First let me warn that there are a great many Grant Star "fakes." In other words, Grants that have had a "star" added by some unscrupulous person. These can be detected in several ways. One is that if the star is added later, the reverse usually shows a "smoothed" spot where the star was punched in. All stars are impressed or known as "incused."

When these were coined, the limited number of Grants with the star were issued first, and the star afterwards ground off the die. When they ground off the star, they also smoothed out a few imperfections in the die and these are the tell-tale proofs as to whether your coin is a genuine star or not. Where the neck and collar join, the original has a slight raise in the field on the genuine. This was removed on the one without the star. There is also a similar imperfection near the nose on the original.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to know the value of a coin I have. It looks like an Egyptian piece. It has the head of a woman on it and dolphins around the head. It appears to be silver. On the back of it is a man in a chariot being pulled by four horses; the man has a whip in his hand, just over the horses' backs. It has what appears to be a cupid over the top of it and the coin is not perfectly round. Please tell me the date and value of this coin.

—P. R. T., New York

Answer:

The coin you describe is similar to a Syracuse piece, and could be in bronze or silver and in varying sizes. The variety determines its value, also condition. Some Syracuse coins are very rare, but there are known imitations of them. If you care to send it for inspection, we will be glad to look at it.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have an uncirculated \$20 gold piece of the early 1900's with wording

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around the rim. It is in the bank, so I cannot tell you the exact date; you no doubt would know. What is the value of this coin now? It is not for sale.

—Mrs. W. J. F., New York

Answer:

The Double Eagle \$20 gold piece is worth \$35.00.

—C. F., New York

Question:

You suggested collecting silver dollars uncirculated and I inquired at the bank about obtaining some of these. The gent told me one has to order 500 or more to get them new and even then they would probably all be of the same date and from the same mint.

I am not a coin collector but have been an accumulator for years, keeping only what comes my way and what looks interesting, because I have always felt that some day if I lost interest in stamps, covers and postals I might want to switch to coins. But one thing that makes me very hesitant of going into this hobby is the madness about uncirculated coins. I just can't see the added glamor and value placed on the un-circulated. As an example—these silver dollars. Just how in the world could one, wanting to make a collection of them, ever manage to possess all dates, all mints, in uncirculated condition? I just don't think it would be possible unless the collector had a bankroll like Farouk.

Incidentally, about the 1921 to 1935 type silver dollars—they all have what appears to be a struck over mint mark under the neck on the head side.

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Should you ever write in your column on these coins, it would be interesting to know what this is for.

Am enclosing two clippings from the local newspapers which I thought you would find interesting. Same day the "Pie Dufour" column appeared there was an AP or INS dispatch giving a long account about the rush on the Philadelphia mint.

Many thanks for your kind letter.

—E. K. J., Louisiana

Answer:

The desire of the collector to have the best and of course, seek the most elusive item, is the main reason why Uncirculated coins are "the" thing. In your stamp collecting, a worn coin would be comparable to a very heavily cancelled stamp, a torn one or other poor specimens that are so easily obtained.

It is not easy to just go to a bank and secure the uncirculated dollars you wish. What you must do is keep your name before friends in many banks and when brand new ones turn up, arrange to have them let you know so you can gradually accumulate uncirculated ones of various dates and mint marks. This system is good for all denominations—trouble is that as soon as you start that you are—without realizing it—a coin collector.

"Pie Dufour's" article is correct. Proof sets of current years are the very greatest rage right now, and should continue as long as they are issued. They are constantly rising in value. The 1936, first of recent proofs, of which there were only a little over 3800 sets made, sell now for near \$90! 3800 sets went so far filling the wants of 109,000 potential buyers as per the records of the mint for 1953. Some of the latter however are very liable to be purchased as a speculation however, for I doubt if there are that many proof set collectors, now.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please tell me the value of the following U.S. coins. Half cents, 1855 and 1864; one cent, 1851; nickels, 1902, 1911, and 1893; dimes 1896, 1902, 1912, 1903, 1907, and Sitting Liberty 1859; three cent pieces 1866, fifty cent pieces 1903, 1893, and 1901; Columbia Exposition fifty cents, 1892, 1893.

I also have a 1901-S quarter. I have heard this coin is worth quite a bit of money. Also what I think is a three-cent piece. On the front is a star which I think is a Union Pacific insignia.

—W. J., Nebraska

Answer:

The Half cents are worth 50c each. Large cent 1851 5c; Nickels in used condition face value; Dimes face; 1859 dime 15c; 1866 3c 10c; halves are face. The Union Pacific piece is most likely a token.

Of all your coins the 1901-S quarter is the best but its value is determined by its condition. It is worth from \$9 in good condition on up.

—C. F., New York

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Question:

Am listing old coins, please advise worth of same. (U. S.) 1835 half cent, good condition; 1847 penny, one side good, other side battered; 1857 penny, good; 1858 penny, good; 1879 Indian head penny, worn some; 1893 Indian head penny, hole in it; 1894 Indian head penny, good; 1895 Indian head penny, good; 1898 Indian head penny, good; 1902 Indian head penny, good; 1903 Indian head penny, good; 1908 Indian head penny, good; 1877, dime, good; 1865 III cent piece, two halves.

—Mrs. A. O. S., Kansas

Answer:

Your coins are worth as follows in good condition:

1835 half cent 20c; 1847 cent 15c; battered, no value; 1857 eagle cent 15c; 1858 20c; Indian Heads 20c each if not mutilated; otherwise no value; 1877 dime 15c; 1865 3c held no value.

—C. F., New York

MONEY OF YESTERYEAR

(Continued from page 131)

now quoted at \$16. Its American valuation is probably around \$20. South African sets are now \$12.50; and the New Zealand sets at \$12.50. The proof sets for 1954 will soon be available from South Africa and can be secured, I believe, for around \$8.00. The Bank of Canada has announced that a new series of paper money is about to be released. The bills will be the same length but the width will be decreased to 2 1/4 inches, 1/4 of an inch narrower. The notes will bear a portrait of Queen Elizabeth. They will not be the exact size of the United States Notes.

I see that the smallest coinage of all denominations so far this year, for the first four months is the quarter dollars of the San Francisco mint; only 1,240,000 have been struck.

Speaking of saving coins. It's too bad collectors didn't save the Morgan type quarters, halves and dimes when they were new, or say a couple of decades ago when they still were in nice shape. It seems that now, when they are fast disappearing from circulation and are badly worn, and when they are poor to good condition everyone is starting to put them away. I say let them continue to circulate until they wear out for there are literally thousands of dollars of these coins that have been taken out of circulation and are constantly being offered from one collector or dealer to another. Everyone has them, no one wants them, but all hope they will get a little premium for their effort of having taken them out of circulation. This of course, is not for the very few extremely rare items. I think it will take many, many years for these worn coins to realize hardly any premium in quantity lots. Probably 10% at the most. Not worth tying one's money up in. I have seen some collectors tie up as much as \$2,000 to \$3,000 in such material. Keep your eyes open for Morgan

coins in fine or better condition, however, for these are really getting scarce; but be sure their condition is really fine, in order to be so the word "liberty" on the headdress of Miss Liberty must be sharp.

STAMPS

(Continued from page 119)

"Centennial Celebration, Topeka, Kansas, 1854-1954" (Topeka, Kansas). Immediately upon receipt through December 5, 1954.

"Springfield, Ohio, 1804 Post Office 1954, 100 years service." (Springfield, Ohio). Entire year 1954.

Wentworth Military Academy & Jr. College, 75th Anniversary. (Lexington, Missouri). From July 1 through December 31, 1954.

Celebrating 300 Years Seafaring History. 1654 Mystic 1954 (Mystic, Connecticut). Date of receipt through September 15, 1954.

100 Years of Living, Crescent City, Calif., 1854 - Centennial - 1954 (Crescent City, California). Upon receipt for a period not to exceed six months.

"1854 New Urm 1854 Centennial, August 17 through 22." (New Urm, Minnesota). From date received to August 22, 1954.

On July 7, Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced the approval of three additional stamps of the ordinary series, as follows:

1c George Washington - to be placed on first day sale at Chicago, Illinois, on August 26, 1954, on the occasion of the annual convention of the Society of Philatelic Americans.

2c Thomas Jefferson - to be placed on first day sale at San Francisco, California, on September 15, 1954, on the occasion of the annual convention of the American Philatelic Society.

4c Abraham Lincoln - to be placed on first day sale at New York, New York, on November 19, 1954, on the occasion of the annual convention of the American Stamp Dealers Association.

was instituted August 28, 1864 from Chicago to Clinton, Iowa, during Lincoln's time. The cachets will show pictorial events of the days in the establishing of the railway mail, such as the Mail to Gen. Grant's troops, the mail cars being attacked by Indians on the prairie and the mail trains being held up by guerrilla bandits. The Postal Transport Service will have a mail car of the latest type open for inspection by "Chipsa" visitors with competent mail clerks on hand to explain its operation. The covers will be mailed on one of these cars operating over the original line, and will receive a special commemorative cancel reading "Chicago & Omaha R.P.O. Train 5, Aug. 28, 1954-90th Anniversary R.P.O. Service."

The set of three cachets may be ordered in advance of the Exhibition by addressing the Chicago Philatelic Society, Rm. 402, 10 N. Clark St., Chicago 2, Ill. The price is 50c and includes the covers, the postage, addressing and mailing of the anniversary date.

Exhibition seals may be had at "Chipsa" or can be ordered from Willis E. Potter, 600 N. LaGrange Road, N. LaGrange, Ill. The price is 25c for a set of two. A return addressed and stamped envelope must be sent.

RARE BLOCK BRINGS \$18,250

The famous block of inverted center 24-cent air mail stamps of 1918, sold at auction in New York recently for \$18,250.

It came from a collection formed by Amos Eno of Princeton, N.J., and was purchased by Raymond H. Weill, New Orleans, La., stamp dealer.

**CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
SALUTES THE S.P.A.**

The Chicago Philatelic Society will play host to the Society of Philatelic Americans for its Diamond Jubilee celebration August 26 - 29.

C.P.S. will stage a large stamp exhibition, known as "Chipsa" in the Gold Room of the Congress Hotel during the convention.

C.P.S. will also issue another of its famous sets of Lincoln seals for the event. This features the newly unveiled Fairbanks statue of "Lincoln, the Pioneer" at New Salem which has just been presented to Illinois by the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

The Chicago Club will also honor the occasion with another set of its famous historical cachets. Three cachets will be produced in commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the establishing of the Railway Post Office which occurs on August 28th, during the convention. The R.P.O.

AMERICANA

(Continued from page 105)

river go by. They have tugged and sweated at millions of sandbags to control that lazy river up on the hill.

Some years ago, tired of piling so many sandbags and seeing them washed away, men diverted some of the flood waters down the old short south route to the gulf. Now it seems the river is showing more interest in that short south route to the sea. Some predict that in seventy-five years it will all switch over to the new channel and leave New Orleans without enough water for a Mardi Gras or a United Fruit boat. The matter is before Congress now. During the next fifty years there will be headlines made by the clash between the economy of a possible shipping channel that is only one third as long, and the preservation of an economy that is already established and in operation.

THE MART

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MART WANTED

Old Hand guns of all kinds, particularly Colts wanted. Also want U. S. Gold and other coins. Obsolete paper money.—H. Brand, 46 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, Fla. a3027

WANTED: Any material relating to the history of any Western or Southwestern State. Books, broadsides, letters, diaries, business ledgers, early newspapers, theatre programs, anything else.—Argonout, 336 Kearny St., San Francisco, Calif. a12340

WANTED: Old correspondence—stamped envelopes and postmarked letters dated or written before 1880. Highest prices paid. Free buying list and information.—B. Ball, 1135 du Pont Blvd., Miami, Fla. a6329

CIGARETTE, TOBACCO, candy cards, Advertising or issued by tobacco companies.—Charles Bray, East Bangor, Pennsylvania. a12693

OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooks, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glenview, Ill. a123741

CANES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Good photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooks, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glenview, Ill. a123741

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—B. M. Salmoneau, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 24, Illinois a33272

CIGARETTE, tobacco cards, loose or in scrap books. Write Charles Bray, East Bangor, Penna. a12693

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trunks, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Krowl, 1846 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. a3644

WANTED: Masks of the world. Indian, African, Oceanic, Mexican or Eskimo. Will buy or trade.—Alpert, 2116 68 St., Brooklyn 4, N. Y. a3565

WILL PAY CASH for cylinder photographs and records, also horn type photographs and anything pertaining to early phonographs. Write, Pollard, 4109 Old Hwy 1, Santa Cruz, Calif. a3514

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS bought.—G. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. a6216

WANTED, Automobile items, anything pertaining to the Auto Era: car accessories, literature, also Americana catalogs that describe goods.—B. J. Pollard, 14390 Prairie, Detroit 33, Mich. a2828

OLD POST CARDS: Will pay average \$3 to \$4 per 500 plus postage.—Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. a30323

ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—L. Warshaw, 762 Westend Ave., New York 26, N. Y. a3253

I BUY magic trick, hocus pocus, and also memory books, pamphlets, etc.—Morris N. Young, M.D., 170 Broadway, Suite 714, New York 38, N. Y. a3614

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS WANTED.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago, a12844

WANTED: Fire engine antiques, firemen's relics, no toys. Write, P. O. Box 77, North Postal Annex, Boston 14, Mass. a3382

WANTED: Gold charms suitable for charm bracelets. Send description and price.—Box 567 Glenwood, Iowa a3042

WANTED: OLD GLASS or china slipers and shoes. Unusual either in design or color. Give size, color, age, country and send sketch or photo. Write Mrs. Anthony Armbrust, 6524 North Tenth Ave., Phoenix, Arizona. a1272

WANTED: U. S. coin glass, unusual seashore shaving mugs, old German steins, miniature lamps, china head dolls all old, rare U. S. coins and gold. Describe fully, giving best price.—James Winkist, 624 Ashland Ave., Rockford, Ill. a32395

WANTED: Left handed mustache cup and saucer. Advice.—R. F. Mateer, 437 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio, a6445

OLD STAMPS WANTED. I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 1c green Franklin stamps, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 ea. unused). Send loc for large illustrated folder showing amazing prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon Baker, (H-54) Elyria, Ohio. Advertiser in HOBBIES since 1931. a3376

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran items wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. a12323

LETTERS, any lots before 1880, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. a124201

WANTED: Louis XV dinner knives and teaspoons; 14" or larger ruffled Seint-John bowls.—Dean, 1231 W. Lebrand, San Antonio, Tex. a1405

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelain figures and plaques.—Gene Weinstein, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. a12698

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owner occupied wanted, programs, single items.—Fred Patterson, P. O. Box 1740, Atlanta, Georgia. a123801

WANTED: Old or unusual cameras. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. a126121

WANTED: Cylinder photographs, parts, catalogs.—Nugent, 12 North 3rd, Richmond, Va. a6253

American Lottery tickets, handbills, circulars, collections, single items or accumulations.—F. C. O. Boyd, Ringoes, New Jersey a12321

WANTED: Playing cards, wide named or narrow named, Bicycle in green or brown. Describe, price, Write — Mrs. C. H. Whitaker, R. 2, Box 102, Union Grove, Wis. a5465

DE SOTO HOUSE Galena, Illinois historical items wanted, programs, photos. De Soto Polka published by Lee & Walker, 1855-6, news items, admission cards to Jenny Lind concert, receptions, etc. Also pictorial and news items fire dept., Frink-Walker stagecoach, etc. Galena, Ill. items only. Describe and price.—Miss Virginia R. Carroll, Hotel De Soto, Galena, Ill. a32111

SET OF SIX original rush or plank seat Hitchcock chairs—good structural condition—original decorated or painted seats not important. Describe fully, photo appreciated. Mrs. Ralph B. Little, P.O. Box 497, Princeton, N.J. a1082

WANTED: Will anyone having Confederate belt plates or buttons for sale, please write me. C. E. Ardinger, 128 N. Franklin, Lancaster, Pa. a1671

SCRAPBOOKS, paper dolls, post cards and other colorful paper material.—Hazel Swayze, Pomfret Center, Conn. a3042

EARLY ANIMATED PICTURES and apparatus, Toys, slides and discs showing figures in motion like Fantascopes, Zoetrope and Muybridge's Zoopraxiscope, etc. Wanted by private collector.—Hansen, 455 Tigertail, Los Angeles 45, Calif. a3694

ANTIQUE MAGIC LANTERNS, slides, programs and posters for early forerunners of the movies. Wanted by private collector.—Hansen, 455 Tigertail, Los Angeles 45, Calif. a3693

WANTED: Old letters, stampless or with stamps, before 1900; early valentines; autographs; documents; pamphlets; other Americana.—John W. Stine, 821 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. a3663

WANTED, full length views, photographs, daguerrotypes, tintypes of Civil War soldiers, sailors. Ball Studio, Welda, Kansas. a1321

WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything pertaining to the history of railroads of Colorado—Koch, 115 Bryant Ave., New York 23, N.Y. a3904

WANTED: Salt and pepper shakers made for coronation of Edward VII.—Justus, 406 East 85 St., New York 28, N.Y. a1461

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HOBBIES

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O. C. LIGHTNER, Founder (1887-1950)

SEPTEMBER, 1954

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

Mechanical Banks

Originals and Recasts

By F. H. GRIFFITH

Mechanical banks for sometime now have continued steadily to increase in their popularity as a collector's item. It is quite natural that along with this continued increased popularity, fakes, reproductions or recasts, numbered replicas and the like would appear on the market in increasing quantities.

These fakes, reproductions, and the like have caused more and more concern among the collectors of mechanical banks and a great degree of concern as to the overall effect on the hobby itself.

First, why would an individual reproduce, recast, or fake a mechanical bank. The answer is obvious, to sell to collectors and dealers for a profit to himself. It's rather difficult to understand just why any person would go to all the trouble involved, but apparently some individuals will do so even though the market for the item is limited and couldn't be very profitable.

A definite controlling factor is the fact that the rarer banks are usually in the hands of bona fide collectors and therefore it's rather difficult for any unscrupulous individual to obtain one of these to make a recast. Up to now the recast banks have been of only the common variety such as the Jolly Nigger. It's rather easy to recognize the Jolly Nigger recast or any of the other recast banks even if the collector or dealer has had limited experience in collecting or buying and selling them.

Along with the fake and recast banks there has also been offered numbered reproductions of certain banks. Just what value these have is difficult to understand. Certainly no collector is fooling anyone but himself if he knowingly has a reproduction item in his collection, and it can never take the place of the original.

There was a time some years ago where a collector who didn't have the Clown, Harlequin and Columbine Bank came up with the idea of recasting twelve of these banks so that a select group could obtain a replica

for their respective collections. Needless to say, the idea fell through as no collector who was fortunate enough to have the Harlequin in his collection wanted any part of the scheme. There was absolutely nothing to be gained by the idea, and this follows through with any recast or reproduced mechanical bank.

There is an angle that is unique to mechanical bank collecting that should be considered. This concerns repair service. In some cases some of the repairers feel it is necessary to recast entire banks to enable them to have all different parts of individual specimens. This has its good and bad points. There have been cases almost to the extreme of starting with an original coin trap and building a bank around it! In any event, the Ferris Wheel and Captain Kidd are two examples of so-called mechanical banks that have up to now never been found as original mechanical banks. The ones that are around have all been altered and made mechanical.

There is no intent to cast reflection on the legitimate repair service offered to fix mechanical banks for those individuals who are unable to do so themselves. However, here again it's up to each person and his own good judgment. It bears repeating that when we try to fool others we usually only fool ourselves.

As a final word, bear in mind that any recast mechanical bank can be recognized as such after some experience in handling or collecting original specimens. It is necessary to use an original bank as a pattern and the recast is recognizable as such. New paint and new paint that has been antiqued is not difficult to distinguish from old paint and natural wear. Mint condition original specimens can be recognized for what they are as against recast items with new paint offered as originals.

Mechanical banks over a period of years have established a strong foothold in the collecting field and all indications are that this will remain so, despite attempts to pass off recast items.

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NUMISMATICS



Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

Do not neglect the Canadian Series of coins. The coinages of our neighbors to the North are finally coming into their own.

I think the start of all this comes from the rapidly increasing number of Canadian collectors and the Whitman Company who has come out with a series of coin boards to hold Canadian coins. The number of Canadian coin collectors has increased considerably and practically all collectors are conscious of the Canadian series.

The early series, tokens, bank pennies and the many other varieties of moneys used in Canada prior to the standardization of their coinages in 1858 have not responded to this sudden popularity, but they should follow along in a few years. Many of these are extremely rare and valuable now, but think what they will rise to if the series becomes popular.

So far, there is no complete book dealing with the Canadian series, and nothing to my knowledge on Canadian paper money but price lists are available and the coins are rising to the point that they are worth the full catalog values in many cases. A short time ago such price lists were not even considered, particularly with used coins. For instance, a fifty cent piece of 1894 catalogs at \$5 in very good condition, and this coin certainly is worth 60% of catalog! Take the half dollar of 1921 cataloging from \$50 to \$200 in various conditions; the 1936 quarter with the celebrated dot, cataloging from \$3 to \$20; the dime of 1889, cataloging from \$15 to \$70; the nickel of 1921 with a valuation of from \$45 to \$90, and the cents of 1936 with the celebrated "dot"—no catalog value as there are only seven specimens known!

Those are all outstanding coins,

but take my advice and do not spurn any Canadian coin that is in uncirculated condition, if it is dated before 1937, in any denomination.

From 1908 to 1919 gold Sovereigns were struck in Canada and are identical in design to the Sovereigns struck in England and other colonies. These are identified by their mint mark, the identifying initial is "C." Keep an eye open for these, for they are much rarer and in more demand than any other Sovereigns and are "Canadian" coins. During 1912, 1913 and 1914 Canada struck, with her own design \$5 and \$10 gold pieces, these are becoming more and more scarce. The Newfoundland series do not seem to have kept up with the Canadians and I believe there are many sleepers there for the collector wishing to secure future rarities. Two dollar gold pieces, struck from time to time, from 1865 to 1888 are becoming increasingly rare, and I wouldn't be surprised if they exceed our own \$3 gold pieces in value some day.

Canadian paper money is a virtually unthought of possibility, except to those endeavoring to secure as many as they can. Watch those large sized Canadian ones, twos and higher denominations. A \$2 of 1880 in extremely fine condition in my last Auction sale brought around \$20! Even the more or less common Canadian 25c notes, in nice condition, are becoming scarce.

I think it advisable for all collectors to study Canadian numismatic publications, study the mint records and keep an eye out for the scarce items still floating around.

Let me mention some coins, that I think, are real "sleepers" if you can find them. Take the gold Sovereign of 1908 mint mark "C" for Canada, mint records indicate that there were only 636 coined! Still it only

catalogs from \$40 to \$55. The Canadian five dollar gold piece of 1914 has a mint record of only 31,122 coins, and it catalogs from \$18 to \$23. Canadian small cents of 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1925 all have a coinage of between one million and one million six hundred thousand per year. Still they only run from 50c to \$6 catalog values. The United States 1914 D cent for comparison has a mint record of 1,193,000 and catalogs from \$11 in fine condition to \$47.50 in uncirculated condition. The Newfoundland \$2 gold piece of 1880, had an issue of only 2500; only 2,041 5c pieces of Newfoundland, dated 1946; only 8000 Newfoundland dimes of 1885; only 19,000 Canadian half dollars in 1932, and this sleeper catalogs from \$3 to \$10. Compare that with our 1933 S half dollar which in uncirculated condition catalogs at \$27.50, with a mint record of 1,786,000. By those figures the 1932 Canadian half in uncirculated condition should be selling for between \$75 and \$100 instead of \$10!

— o —

If you start looking for these, your search may be very profitable in a few years, even if you buy them at today's full catalog value.

A Library is an invaluable thing to any collector or dealer. No one can guess right all of the time, and following ads alone is not the surest way of knowing what you are doing. There are many parts of the world that are not too well known by the average collector and automatically discounted as having anything of much value. This is a mistake. Since our War with Japan our interests in their coinages have increased greatly, and I find listed coins that hitherto were found of-

ferred very carelessly in America worth considerable. It was only a couple of weeks ago that a good friend of mine bought from a well known collector at the latter's asking price a Japanese gold coin that brought three times the purchase price.

A good book on Japanese coins is invaluable to any collector, for a good many of the very early Japanese coins particularly the early gold pieces, the Obans, kobans and "kin" pieces are very rare and have valuations up as high as \$2,000 for a single coin. Chinese and Korean coins have a great many rarities in their series also. Have a library and you know what's what. It's impossible for everyone to have in their head all knowledge about all coins. Remember it takes many years for an expert to compile data that goes into one text on one certain series of coins.

—0—

A great many new issues of coins outstanding in design are those of silver dollar size from the South American countries. A silver Peso dated 1953 has been issued by Cuba. On the obverse we find the bust of Marti with inscription "1853 Centenario de Marti"; reverse shows rising sun, key and value with weight and fineness, legends are as usual Republica de Cuba and Patria Y Libertad, a companion piece is the new 50 centavo piece in silver to go with it. Germany has a new five mark commemorative silver coin for the Western Zone which commemorates the German Museums. In 1953 Mexico issued a new five Peso silver coin with a bust of Hidalgo facing

and Cathedral to left; reverse shows the Mexican Eagle and legends as to source, date fineness and denomination.

Panama's new 1953 Balboa is very attractive with the helmeted head of Balboa on the obverse and a standing female figure and arms on the reverse; it is to commemorate (Continued on page 124)

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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis. If you wish reply by mail, enclose 10c to defray costs. Do not mail us coins in question, please.



Question:

Enclosed is a sketch of an old copper coin I have. It is about one and one half inches in diameter and is, I believe, dated 1826. Can you please tell me where it came from, and something of its value?

—D. S., Maine

Answer:

This is a bronze forty reals coin of Brazil dated 1826. Its value is 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have in my possession a \$4. continental piece of currency in fair condition. This is what is on it. "This bill entitles bearer to receive 4 Spanish Milled dollars or the value thereof in gold or silver according to the resolution of Congress passed Feb. 26, 1777. A. Norris." It has a picture of a wild boar on it.

—D. S. M., Pennsylvania

Answer:

Your revolutionary continental note is not rare being worth about 25c in the condition stated.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Could you tell me if the following dollar bill is anything unusual? Instead of a letter in front of the number there is a small star. I have only recently become interested in coins and paper money and have never noticed any numbers on bills with a star before the number. The bill in question is series 1935-E and the number is *28316560D.

—M. L., Connecticut

Answer:

The star before the number on the bill indicates a replacement. In other words a new bill to replace one that has been destroyed or cancelled.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please send me the valuation of this British, 1839 one shilling; on the front is "Victoria Dei Gratia Britannia Reg. F. D." It has been used as a good luck piece and has a hole through it.

—W. B. J., Nebraska

Answer:

Any coin that has a hole through it has no value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Can you tell me what this coin is and if it has any value? I would say it is gold. The date is 1889. On the side with the head it says Victoria D. G. Britt. Reg. F. D. It's slightly worn.

—J. O. Z., Pennsylvania

Answer:

Your coin is an English gold sovereign, value \$7.50.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Enclosed you will find some tracings of some coins, or rather what I think may be coins. They are porcelain or china material. Three of them are brown with gold edges and some gold trim. The other two are white with gold edges and gold trim.

—E. McB., Kansas

Answer:

The coins you sent tracings of are German Emergency coins made about 1921-1923. They are valued at from 25c to \$1.00 each.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Can you please tell me if there is any value in a gold dollar coined in 1856? I would like also to know the value of a Lincoln one cent piece coined in 1943. Is it true that only six of the latter coins were minted?

—V. R., Oklahoma

Answer:

The 1856 gold dollar in fine condition is worth \$4. There were many 1943 cents coined and they are not rare.

—C. F., New York

Question:

A friend of mine has a five dollar bill which was creased while being printed and as a result has a long narrow blank space running through the design from the upper right hand corner of the bill and

across the bill through the figure of Lincoln and ending at the blue numeral five on the left of the portrait. The design on the back was unbroken showing that it had been printed first. The bill is in good condition. Would it be worth any more to a collector than its face value?

—T. D. H., South Dakota

Answer:

Yes, the bill is worth more than its face value to a collector.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please evaluate the following old bills or bank notes: State of North Carolina, 1862, \$1; State of North Carolina, 1863, \$1; State of North Carolina, 1863, \$5; State Bank of So. Carolina, Charleston, 1859, \$10; State Bank of So. Carolina, Charleston, 1859, \$5; Farmers & Exchange Bank, Charleston, S. C., 1854, \$20; Bank of Camden, S. C., 1859, \$20; Bank of Hamburg, S. C., 1859, \$10; The State of Alabama Treasury Note, 1863, 25c; The State of Louisiana, 1862, \$2; Bank of Chattanooga, Tenn., 1863, \$1; The State of Florida, 1863, \$1; State Bank of New Brunswick, N. J., #7309, \$1; The Merchants Bank of Jackson Co. Brooklyn, Mich., T-1840, \$1; The Bank of Washtenaw, Ann Arbor, Mich., 1835, \$5; The Catskill Bank, Catskill, N. Y., 1862, \$5; The Columbia Bank, Washington, D. C., 1852, \$5; The State of Georgia, 1863, \$1; The State of Georgia, 1862, \$5; The Mechanics Bank of Augusta, Georgia, 1853, \$50; The Bank of Augusta, Georgia, #876, \$50; The Bank of Augusta, Georgia \$1; Augusta Insurance & Banking Co., Augusta, Ga., 1861, \$1; Augusta Insurance & Banking Co., Augusta, Ga., \$2; Missouri Defense Bond, \$1.

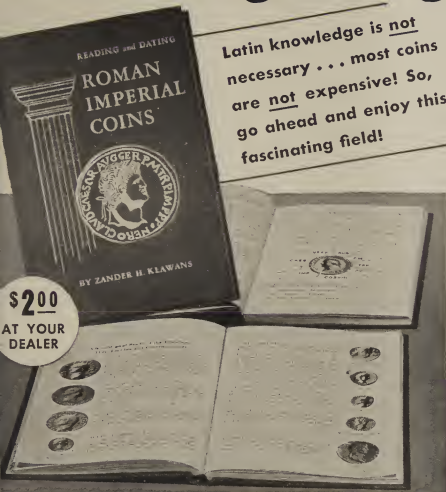
—M. S., Wisconsin

Answer:

The notes you list are known as broken bank bills and are no longer redeemable. In fine condition they are worth about 10c each.

—C. F., New York

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Question:

My inquiry concerns a Mexican gold piece, year 1915, having the seal of Mexico engraved one side and the words 20 pesos also appearing thereon. A coin book which shows a picture of this coin, gives the value at \$25. However, I am wondering how one goes about selling such a coin for \$25. A dealer states \$16 is the price. Perhaps you could straighten this out: is the coin worth \$25 and if so who will pay that amount for it?

—M. V. C., Missouri

Answer:

The valuation of \$25 is a CATALOGUE valuation and does not necessarily mean that the coin will always bring that price. Condition must be taken into consideration. At this time this coin retails from \$20.00 to \$22.50 (collectors always liking to purchase coins for less than the catalogue value). The price of \$16 is fair enough for he must make a profit.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing tracings of a few coins I have in my possession and have never identified. Can you tell me what these are and the value of them?

—Mrs. E. S., Texas

Answer:

Your coins are valued as follows: No. 1—50c; No. 2—\$1; No. 3—25c; No. 4—25c; No. 5—25c; No. 6—15c; No. 7—5c; No. 8—25c; No. 9—25c; No. 10—25c; No. 11 no value.

—C. F., New York

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I BUY OLD UNITED STATES COINS. List 18c.—Romey, Box 291, Bluffton, Indiana. j122238

WANTED FOR CASH. Michigan obsolete bank notes and scrip.—Harold L. Bowen, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit 3, Michigan. j122511

WANTED: Confederate currency, obsolete bank notes, coin collections. For sale: 1954 edition Whitman's Handbook, \$1; 7th edition Goldbook, \$1.75.—Cook Coins, Jackson 5, Mississippi. n2423

CONFEDERATE ITEMS WANTED: Paper Money, Notes, Bonds, State Currency, Stamped Envelopes, Papers, Proclamations.—B. Steiner, Box 204, Miami Beach, Florida. n3023

Question:

I am anxious to learn something about a strange United States dollar bill that I have recently acquired.

It has been issued since the Eisenhower administration, and signed by Humphrey.

The black printing on the side with Washington's portrait is regular and okay, but on the other side, which is printed in green, above the regular design, is an eight inch strip from the face design, printed in black and running the entire width of the green design. This makes two printings instead of one on the green side.

Can you tell me how this happened? I have not seen another.

—F. F. C., Ohio

Answer:

This could very easily occur by one note while the ink is still wet accidentally being placed upon another, sort of an off-set printing freak. These are quite unusual and freak collectors would be interested in acquiring it. The government is very careful not to allow such errors in circulation, but occasionally they slip by.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to know if the enclosed copy of a paper could be of any value? The paper seems like parchment.

—Mrs. M. E. W., Connecticut

Answer:

The bill is a Confederate Note for \$10 and its value today is 25c.

—C. F., New York

MONEY OF YESTERYEAR

(Continued from page 121)

the 50th anniversary of the republic, and is accompanied by coins in denominations half Balboa (50c) Quarter Balboa, 1/10th Balboa and 1 Centesimo. The latter is in bronze and the others in silver. Other new minor coins have been issued in Afghanistan, Burma, Butan Germany, Soviet Zone, Italy, Lebanon, New Caledonia, but are not outstanding numismatically.

Now that the government is frowning upon new issues of commemorative coins, having refused to approve any more at the present time, there will probably be an increase in medals to attempt to take the place of the non-existent commemorative coins. I do not think that medals will ever take their place. Some have made a very great attempt such as the Norse American medals of 1925, the so called Wilson Dollar of 1920, etc., etc., and while some of these are quite scarce and in good demand, they still are not coins. The attempt may be made by not having the new medals look so much like medals, but to endeavor to make them look more like coins in the size and thickness of a silver dollar or half dollar, and with impressions of low relief like a coin, not the very high relief of a medal. This

COINS FOR SALE

MILITARY DECORATIONS for sale. All countries.—List for stamp.—Kenneth Lee, 628 Security Bldg., Glendale 5, Calif. a123891

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U. S. COINS, bought and sold. Will appreciate your want list of date of coin wanted in the U. S. series from Half Cents to gold pieces.—W. O. White, 419 S. Franklin St., Watkins Glen, N. Y. ad122443

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OLD & RARE COINS my hobby. Free list and prices of current coins I need.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. d12804

FOREIGN COIN PACKETS 50c. \$1. \$2 each, descriptive lists free. Envelopes, albums, catalogs, books, other supplies for coin collectors, send for listings.—Webb, 2200 Quintara, San Francisco 16, Calif. mh124551

100 INDIAN HEAD CENTS \$5.00. 100 different foreign coins \$4. U. S. Coin Book \$1.—Parker, 1254 Market, San Francisco, Calif. o3776

Genuine Confederate \$10 bill and 2 Civil War cents, all for \$1.—Orleans Coin Shop, 517 Baronne St., New Orleans 12, La. f122112

WORLDWIDE SELECTION—different countries 25c; English Coronation Crown \$1.40; 100 different coins \$2.75.—Jolie, Box 194, Rugby, Brooklyn 3, New York. n3084

GOLD COINS. American \$5, \$10, \$20, \$1.00 above double face value. M. O. Plus Ins. and P.P.—Kurtz Coin Shop, 715 Central Ave., Far Rockaway, N. Y. n3844

FOR SALE: Very good to excellent U. S. gold coins of the 1800's; \$5, \$10, \$20, at 25c face, posted and insured.—H. H. Glick, Box 210, Fairfield, Ill. a3444

I HAVE GIVEN the greater part of my coin collection to the Ohio State Museum. I still have a few gold pieces, many commemorative half dollars and many copper and brass coins which I will sell cheap.—Dr. F. A. Stengel, 142 S. State St., Marion, Ohio. a1233

GOLD COINS FOR SALE: U. S. foreign, ancient, Mormon gold, \$50, half, etc., all at very reasonable prices. Send for detailed list.—Lynn Crandall, Box 697, Idaho Falls, Idaho. f3219

ings these medals nearer to coins design and they become classified "so called" half dollars, or "so called" silver dollars, and as such become much more popular than a series of real medals with high relief and odd size that never seem to become associated very much with coin description.

The latest of these is the new Albany, N. Y., Cradle of the Union Commemorative medals which are being authorized and offered throughout the country at the present time. They are in silver and bronze, and I am interested in seeing how well they will be accepted by coin collectors of the nation, particularly the commemorative coin collectors, if they accept them, the medals become rare and valuable, while if they are not accepted, they will become "just another medal." They are struck by the United States Mint which should help them a lot, and we understand it will be very difficult to get any more such medals struck by the mint as the consensus of opinion seems to be that the striking of medals by the mint is an infringement upon private enterprise. Many private companies specialize in the coining and striking of medals.

STAMPS

(Continued from page 119)

As a result, set up an experimental mail service between Washington, D. C., and New York, N. Y., with an intermediate stop at Philadelphia, Pa.

The first flights both ways were made on May 15, 1918.

The United States Army furnished planes and pilots and conducted flying and maintenance, and the Post Office Department handled the mail. All operations connected with it. Also printed the first 24-cent carnation rose and blue air mail stamp, with the picture of the early flying machine, the "Jenny."

Incidentally, one sheet of these air mail stamps with the Jenny printed upside down escaped the Post Office in Washington and gave the latest one of its most dramatic moments. A fortunate mint-sheet cover, so the legend goes, went to the Washington Post Office the day the stamp was first issued in 1918. A man ahead of him ordered a set of the stamps and then instantly handed it back to the clerk because the airplanes were upside down. The next man in line was given this sheet. Today, a single stamp from this sheet, the only one of its kind ever released by the Post Office Department out of millions of sheets of stamps issued since July 1, 1847, is valued at \$500.

— o —

Postmaster General Arthur E. Warner recently warned American businessmen and merchants of the increase in illegal alterations of money orders to raise their value, and cautioned those cashing postal money orders to take added precau-

tions in their own self-interest. In the fiscal year ended June 30, 1954, there were a total of 109 persons arrested for the crime. Stores and businesses which cash the forged or "raised" money orders must stand the financial loss.

— o —

Effective on or about September 1, 1954, air mail service will be inaugurated at Alamogordo, New Mexico, on route AM-29.

Special cachet will be provided for Alamogordo and the usual treatment of philatelic mail will be authorized.

— o —

The 4-cent Air Mail Postage Stamp, will be first placed on sale on September 3, 1954, at Philadelphia, Pa., on the occasion of the Annual Convention and Exhibition of the American Air Mail Society.

Postmaster General Summerfield said that this new air mail stamp is being issued primarily for the convenience of patrons desiring to send souvenir post cards by air to their families and friends. Although this new air mail stamp is intended for use on post cards, it will be valid for use in combination with other stamps on any mail intended for transmission by air mail.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations of this stamp may send a reasonable number of addressed post cards to the Postmaster at Philadelphia, with money order remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed. The outside envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "First Day Covers."

— o —

A special postal cancellation has been authorized reading "Centennial/Mare Island Navy Yard/1854-1954". This will be applied to all covers.

A feature of the thrill-packed four-day celebration will be the Centennial Cavalcade. Titled "The First Hundred Years", the huge outdoor production will present a cast of more than 600 persons reliving dramatic highlights from the history of California and the great naval institution that has built nearly 500 fighting vessels for America's fleets. Mare Island has served the nation through five conflicts.

Cost of covers is ten cents each to defray handling and postage. Requests may be sent to Mare Island Centennial, City Hall, Vallejo, California. They should be received by September 10.

— o —

Special slogan cancellations may be obtained by sending self-addressed envelopes to appropriate postmaster with request that cancellation be applied:

"Help Goodwill Industries to Help the Handicapped" (San Antonio, Texas), September 15 through October 8, 1954.

"The National Peanut Festival, October 18-23" (Dothan, Alabama) Immediately upon receipt through October 23, 1954.

"Aloha Week in Hawaii, Oct. 18-Nov. 7." (Honolulu, Hawaii) Sept. 15 through Nov. 7, 1954.

"Centennial Mare Island Navy Yard, 1854-1954." (Vallejo, Calif.) Date of receipt thru December 31, 1954.

"Gaffney, South Carolina, Sesqui-centennial, September 12 to 18, 1954." Date of receipt thru Sept. 18, 1954. (Gaffney, South Carolina.)

"Help Goodwill Industries Help the Handicapped." (Indianapolis, Ind.) September 1 through October 31, 1954.

"Port Necessity Bicentennial 1754-1954" (Uniontown, Pennsylvania) Date of receipt thru December 31, 1954.

— o —

CACHET FOR SHIPYARD CENTENNIAL

A two-color printed cachet featuring silhouettes of a full-rigged sailing ship and a modern U.S. Navy cruiser has been prepared for the Mare Island Centennial in Vallejo, Calif., this September. The festival commemorates the founding in 1854 of the Mare Island Navy Yard, oldest naval base on the U.S. Pacific Coast.

Cachets will bear the dates September 16, 17, 18, 19, 1954, days of the celebration. All covers will be postmarked at Mare Island Station, Vallejo, Calif., September 16, unless otherwise requested. This date is the 100th anniversary of the yard's founding by David Glasgow Farragut, later the famed fighting Admiral of Mobile Bay.

— o —

TENNESSEE STATE FAIR CACHET

A special envelope with an attractive cachet is being manufactured for issuance on the first day of the Tennessee State Fair, which will be the week of September 20 to 25, 1954, in Nashville, Tennessee. These covers may be obtained by sending names and addresses and postage together with 10c for each cover (or 25c for three) to help cover cost of envelopes, printing and addressing. (DO NOT send envelopes for the cachet). Send all requests for covers to Ernest K. Hinson, 1410 E. Douglas Ave., Nashville 6, Tenn.

— o —

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI CONVENTION

The Twenty-First Annual Exhibition and Convention of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society will be held in Omaha on September 24, 25 and 26.

The Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society was founded in Omaha in 1934, primarily for collectors located in the middle west, but over the years the membership has grown to include collectors from all parts of the country as well as overseas.

This will be a 250 frame show with outstanding exhibits from collectors all over the country. Being held in conjunction with Omaha's Centennial Year, with its many activities such as parades, exhibits of various kinds, a much larger attendance than usual is expected.

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1890 \$3.75; 1891 \$3.95; 1892	5.45
New Orleans Mint, 1881 \$6.95; 1882 \$7.95; 1883	3.95
1884 \$4.75; 1885 \$5.95; 1889-0 \$5.95; 1900-0	3.75
Phila. Mint, 1878 7 feathers	3.75
1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, each	2.45
1886 \$1.95; 1887 \$5.95; 1893 \$5.75, 1904	4.95
San Francisco Mint, 1878, 1879, 1887, 1891, 1897	2.25
1880, 1881, 1882, 1890, each \$2.45; 1883, 1886, 1888,	2.45
1889, 1894, 1898, 1900, 1901, 1902, each	2.75
1885, 1899, each \$3.95; 1903 Rare	34.50

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\$5 Gold VG-F	10.45	11.75	12.75	13.95
\$ 2.50 Ind.		7.45	8.75	9.45

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1915 Panama-Pacific (Wtd. @ 26.50) ..	—	1936 Elgin (Wtd. @ 10.50) ..	14.50	1934 Texas	4.95
1918 Lincoln (Wtd. @ 6.50) ..	9.85	1936 Bay Bridge	8.75	1935 Texas set—silver @ 3.65 ..	8.95
1920 Maine	9.75	1936 Columbia set (Wtd. @ 22.50) ..	—	1936 Texas set	9.75
1920 Pilgrim	3.95	1936 Robinson	9.45	1937 Texas set	10.50
1921 Pilgrim	9.75	1937 Roanoke	9.75	1938 Texas set (Wtd. @ 29.00) ..	—
1921 Missouri (Wtd. @ 40.00) ..	—	1936 Delaware (Wtd. @ 5.50) ..	9.75	1948 B. T. Washington	4.95
1921 Missouri 2x4 (Wtd. @ 41.00) ..	—	1938 New Rochelle (Wtd. @ 14.50) ..	18.50	1947 B. T. Washington	6.75
1921 Alabama (Wtd. @ 18.50) ..	—	1936 Gettysburg	10.95	1948 B. T. Washington	8.45
1921 Alabama 2x2	37.50	1936 Norfolk (Wtd. @ 10.50) ..	—	1949 B. T. Washington	11.50
1922 Grant (Wtd. @ 6.00) ..	—	1937 Antietam (Wtd. @ 18.50) ..	—	1950 B. T. Washington	11.50
1922 Grant Star, die break ..	Wtd.	1936 Iowa	7.95	1951 B. T. Washington	8.45
1923 Monroe	7.95	1935 Arkansas set	17.50	1951 Carver set	7.95
1924 Huachuca (Wtd. @ 6.00) ..	—	1936 Arkansas set, Single 4.95 ..	14.50	1952 Carver set	7.95
1925 Lexington	5.75	1937 Arkansas set	15.75	1953 Carver Set	7.95
1925 Stone Mountain	3.45	1938 Arkansas set (Wtd. @ 26.50) ..	—	1954 Carver set	8.45
1925 California	9.75	—	—	Special—above 10 sets	79.00
1925 Vancouver (Wtd. @ 25.50) ..	—	1939 Arkansas set (Wtd. @ 95.00) ..	—	OTHER COMMEMORATIVES	—
1926 Sequi (Wtd. @ 4.50) ..	—	1934 Boone (Wtd. @ 3.50) ..	16.50	1893 Isabella Quarter (Wtd. @ 13.50) ..	—
1927 Vermont	13.45	1935 Boone set	—	1900 Lafayette Dollar (Wtd. @ 21.00) ..	—
1928 Hawaii (Wtd. @ 65.00) ..	—	1936 Boone set, sm. 34 (Wtd. @ 100.00) ..	—	1920 Wilson "Dollar," silver (Wtd. @ 30.00) ..	—
1934 Maryland (Wtd. @ 7.50) ..	10.95	1937 Boone set	17.50	1920 Wilson "Dollar," bronze (Wtd. @ 30.00) ..	32.50
1935 Connecticut	22.50	1938 Boone set (Wtd. @ 87.50) ..	—	1925 Norway thin (medal) (Wtd. @ 10.50) ..	—
1935 Hudson (Wtd. @ 40.00) ..	—	1926 Oregon	4.95	1925 Norse thick (medal) ..	5.45
1935 San Diego	5.75	1928 Oregon "S"	3.95	1938 Swedish-Delaware ..	4.95
1936 San Diego	7.75	1928 Oregon "D"	8.75	1935 Pony Express Medal, nickel-silver75
1935 Spanish Trail (Wtd. @ 22.50) ..	—	1934 Oregon "D"	5.15	#349X National page for above coins80
1936 Rhode Island	17.50	1936 Oregon	3.95		
1936 Cleveland	3.95	1938 Oregon "S"	7.95		
1936 Wisconsin	10.75	1937 Oregon "D"	3.95		
1936 Cincinnati set (Wtd. @ 42.50) ..	—				
1936 Long Island	4.95				
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The Magazine For Collectors



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HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

1006 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois

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OCTOBER, 1954 Vol. 59, Number 8

\$3.50 per year in U. S.; (\$4 in Canada, \$4.50 in foreign countries)

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Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

Ding Dong Bell Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH



The Ding Dong Bell Bank, No. 32 in our numerical classification, brings us to another type or group of mechanical banks. This group comprises the relatively few mechanical banks that were made of tin insofar as the main structure of the bank is concerned. Some others in the group are the Plantation Savings Bank, Dapper Dan, Toad In Den, Wireless, Home Bank, Presto, Jocko, Winner, and several of the foreign banks such as the Frog and Snake, and Monkey and Parrot.

The Ding Dong Bell was manufactured by the Weeden Manufacturing Company of New Bedford, Mass., in the period of 1885. The Weeden Company became noted for their manufacture of steam type toys, particularly stationary steam engines and steam trains. They also made a toy steam fire engine that actually pumped water. Their line of toys were very nicely made and the mechanical banks they manufactured were all of similar general design and operated by small clock works.

The bank shown is from the very fine collection of Leon Cameto. It is in excellent all around condition and Mr. Cameto obtained the bank through the good help of Mr. Elliott F. Bishop. It is believed that the bank originally turned up in New Jersey.

The back of the bank is exactly the same as the Plantation Savings Bank with the lettered instructions, the door to remove coins, the lock key, and the wind-up key. On the side of the bank not shown in the picture is the stamped wording 'A (penny) Saved Is A (penny) Earned, Savings Bank.' Instead of the word 'penny' there is a one cent piece shown and then an Indian head penny. The other wording on the bank can be seen in the picture.

The various colors on the bank are attractive and are as follows: The top is an orange red color and the sides are blue with the lettering and coins in gold. The bottom is orange red and made of wood. The boy at the well has a red cap, tan coat, and blue trousers. The well is brown, the bucket orange, the cat is black. The boy with the bell has a white shirt, tan trousers, and red stockings. The bell is gold. The boy on the fence has a red blouse, black

hat, white collar, and his pants leg is white. The sky is blue, the tree natural colors, and the fence is dark green. The lettering "Ding Dong Bell" on the front of the bank is in black.

The operation of the bank is as follows: First the mechanism is wound by the key on the back. Then a coin is inserted in the slot shown in the picture. Immediately the boy on the fence starts to wave his hat and the other boy begins waving the bell held in his hand. Meantime the boy at the well gradually pulls the cat out of the well

and just before the mechanism stops he drops the cat back into the well. The action takes about 20 seconds and will operate about five times on one winding. Of course another coin must be used each time to start the action.

All in all the Ding Dong Bell is a very attractive good action mechanical bank to have in a collection. Any collector who has one is very fortunate since there are only four or possibly five of these banks known to be in private collections.

F. L. BALL

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- AMERICAN BANK (Sewing machine)
- DING DONG BELL (Tin mechanical)
- OLD WOMAN IN THE SHOE
- BOWLING ALLEY BANK
- CAT
- DUCK
- RED RIDING HOOD
- FOOTBALL (Colored man kicks ball)
- CLOWN ON BAR (Tins figure)
- PATRONIZE THE BLIND MAN & HIS DOG
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- U. S. BANK (Boy & Dog in Window)

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NUMISMATICS



Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

If you have been a steady reader of my Quiz Corner, you will note the many many inquiries that come in regarding coins that are of very little value, those that are very common. It is understandable, for the fact that coins are hard to find is the reason for their high value.

When our boys were "over there" in World War I, a great many came home with a pocket full of small minor foreign coins, they were not saved because the owners were coin collectors, but rather because they had a few cheap coins of little value that would be unusual to have at home and show around. One may rest assured that any of the pieces that did have some value, were redeemed at the time as Foreign Exchange to realize the funds they represented. The cheap little pieces, literally thousands of them, found their way into some drawer or old box and lay forgotten until a much later date.

During the twenties, the vast influx of American tourists travelling throughout the world also brought back with them similar coins. These saved were of very little value.

Then in World War II, we again find a repetition of what occurred in World War I, coins of the more common variety were brought back from every corner of the globe.

One can almost tell by looking over a batch of these coins when they were brought back and why. Those that were brought back during or after World War I are almost always French, German, and some English pieces. The coins brought home by tourists, and from all parts of the world but mostly from Europe and usually dated after World War I. Then in World War II, we find coins from the East, Japan, Australia, Philippines, the South Sea Islands, and from the other theatre, Greek, Italian, French, German, English and some Balkan coins, also a good many from North Africa.

Now, after these thousands of common Foreign pieces have been laying in all kinds of nooks and crannies, suddenly, many people who have forgotten where they came from, find them, think, because they are unusual, that they might be rare, and endeavor to find out. We also find offered a great many of the more or less worn United States coins, two cent pieces, three cent pieces, Indian Head cents and so forth. These, too have been put away by a large mass of non collecting public. The reason they were put away, is because they most likely were picked out of pocket change, long after that particular type of coin was common in circulation. For instance, take the Liberty Head, or Barber types of dimes, quarters and half dollars and the Liberty nickels, that are fast leaving our circulation today. When one is found in pocket change, the tendency now is to save the piece because it is unusual. As time goes on and less and less of these coins appear in circulation, the more unusual they will appear to the non collecting public and the more reason for them to hold on to their find. Now, one must realize that these last survivors of a type of coin, by the law of averages, must have been of a date or variety that was the most common to outlast all of its brethren. And it must also be remembered that if the coin circulated for such a great length of time, it would most likely be very badly worn. In any given denomination, or special type of coin, the real rare ones disappear first, not last. The rare 1931 San Francisco Mint Lincoln Cents could hardly be found in circulation five years after they were issued.

Hence the vast majority of "unusual" coins that were put away by the non collecting public, are the most common and worth the least. There are rare and unusual exceptions to the rule however, but they are few and far between.

In order to secure the genuine rare pieces one must be aware of Numismatics even as the coins are issued, or purchase them as a collector from some other collector who happened to secure the piece, or from a dealer. A century ago, some of the great rarities were difficult to obtain even during the year of issue, in fact collectors had to go to great extremes to secure them. And of course one must remember that condition is the all determining factor in the valuation of any coin.

Take the years of 1884 and 1885. With the beginning of the striking of proofs by the mint to be sold to the coin collectors in 1853, collectors had become used to writing to the mint each year and securing a complete set of these beautiful pieces. In the years 1884 and 1885 the proof sets that were sent out did not include the rare proof trade dollars. There were a trifle under 4,000 proof sets issued each of these years, but no one knows how many of the trade dollar proofs were struck, and none of the sets included this rarity, still at a later date, just a few 1884 and 1885 proof trade dollars appeared. Rumor has it that there are probably only twenty five of each of the coins. Today a great many collectors carefully watch the coinage quantities of all dates, mint marks, and denominations of United States coins, and when they note some that are below norms in quantity, they scramble to invest in them by the roll. This has been going on now since around 1934 when the big boom in roll coin hoarding began in full swing. Some even just disregard the quantities coined and simply stored away rolls of all dates, mint marks and denominations. So far this has been profitable for the most part but it seems to me the practice tends to reduce the real rarity of these coins, due to the quantity that are carefully being saved for posterity where formerly, they all went in

circulation and wound up with so few uncirculated specimens as to cause them to skyrocket. Again, I must stress the great importance of condition in the valuation of any coin. The very slightest evidence of wear of any kind, will immediately reduce the value of the coin to a fraction of what it would be if a gem uncirculated piece. The 1919-S half dollar catalogues in gem uncirculated condition for \$300, and sells for around \$225. In fine condition, that is with just the very slightest amount of wear as to be hardly noticeable, it catalogs at \$20 and sells for from ten dollars to twelve dollars. If it is Fair or good, badly worn, as we find them occasionally in circulation even today, they are worth from two dollars to five dollars. Quite a drop from three hundred dollars to two dollars! A 1935 San Francisco half dollar catalogues for twenty dollars in gem uncirculated condition, but one couldn't get a nickel over face for one even if it was very slightly used.

Up until a very few years ago, paper money was never considered a popularly collected item and very few old time collectors had the foresight to secure crisp new specimens of all the types and varieties that have been issued by the United States since the Civil War. One collector in the Middle West who was wealthy enough to do so, consistently put away reasonable quantities of these notes for years and years, and finally must have had hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of these bills. Then, about a decade ago, he gradually began offering them to the collecting public. I believe all of his material is now sold, but I think it was

this terrific hoard that made collectors of the nation aware of the beauty of these bills and as the ranks of paper money collectors swelled and demand increased, up went the price of those scarce old notes.

The recent boom in collecting of proof sets is astounding. It won't be thirty days before the 1950 set will

(Continued on page 125)

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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis. If you wish reply by mail, enclose 10c to defray costs. Do not mail us coins in question, please.



Question:

I acquired a one cent Lincoln coin, Denver mint, two years ago, and I wonder if it is worth anything. The date is "195?". The last number isn't there and it certainly couldn't rub off in a little over two years.

—S. O., Colorado

Answer:

This could happen very easily at the time of coining by the die breaking and eliminating the last digit. It would be classified as a freak, and as such, worth about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Enclosed is a paper with impressions. (1) copper G. B. McClellan cent; (2) Iron Strasburg Cathedral Medal. Am most anxious to know the origin and use, rather than values. Would you know when the Strasburg medal was cast?

—Mrs. H. S. W., Massachusetts

Answer:

The McClellan cent is one of the many varieties of Civil War tokens; it is valued at 10c.

The Cathedral medal has no date upon it, so I cannot enlighten you on this score. It is not rare however, being worth about 50c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I wonder if you can tell me what some of these tracings of money are; also if they are worth anything. I have a half dime 1863-S; 1856, 1857, 1858 three cent pieces; 1864, 1866 two cent pieces; a dollar bill 1928-B series with shield on left; a dollar bill printed only on one side with two women kneeling at large line, at the top "Bank of Virginia will pay bearer on demand at their banking house in Charleston, Richmond, Dec. 2, 1861 for cash. Wm. Coulling for Pres. A. F. David." names and dates are written in ink.

Mrs. J. K., New Jersey

Answer:

I regret that none of the coins or paper money you list are of any great premium valuation. Such coins usually are worth around double face value with the exception of the 1863-S half dime. This coin in fine condition is worth around \$1.00.

The 1928 bill is worth face, and the southern note is worth 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I will be most grateful if you will evaluate for me six gold coins, two and one half dollar pieces, I have recently acquired. The condition while not uncirculated, I would describe as good. The dates are 1908 (1), 1914 (2), and 1926 (2). Also do the silver dollars of 1880, 1881, 1889 and 1926 have more than face value?

—J. W. J., New York

Answer:

Your two and a half dollar gold pieces are worth \$5. each on the 1914 and 1926 and \$6. on the 1908. The silver dollars are worth face value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

In looking over some buffalo type nickels, I noticed a 1935 with a raised square between "five" and "cents" under the buffalo. Has this mark any significance or bearing on the value of the coin? What is the value of a 20 peso gold Mexican Veinte Pesos de Oro Puro 1918?

—P. V. P., Florida

Answer:

The mark under the buffalo is most likely a mint mark. "D" is for Denver and "S" for San Francisco. In this case the mint mark makes no difference in the value of the coin, as it is probably in used condition. The 20 Pesos gold is worth about \$15.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing 2 pencil rubbings of a coin I have. On the left it says "piece of eight" with a crown and the word "Spain" beneath the crown followed by the coin date 1698 on the right is inscribed "Court of Ferdinand" with skull and crossbones. The coin is in English and yet a Spanish coin, evidently. Could you please tell me if it's worth anything and why the English on the Spanish coin?

—A. McK., Indiana

Answer:

The piece you have is not a coin but a piece of play money made of brass that is frequently found in children's toy "Pirate" sets.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like to have information on the following coins and their value. First a copper coin with the letters K.K. OESTERREICHISCH. SCHEIDEMUNZ on one side and 1 KREUZER, 1851-A about the size of our nickel. Secondly, one Flori 1926 GEORGIVS V.D.G. BRIT. OMN.; REX F.D. IND. IMP. silv. about size of half dollar. And third a five-cent piece of Canada 1917.

—H. G. B., Illinois

Answer:

Your copper coin is very common and worth about 1c. The one flor about 20c and the Canadian nickel 5c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I should like the address of the branch of the government where should send for yearly coins in mint series or sets; also where in Washington I should send for a price set.

—L. J. G., Massachusetts

Answer:

Complete sets of uncirculated coins can be secured the first three months of each year by ordering from the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. Send for instructions.

Proof sets can be secured the whole year during the year of issue or by writing the United States Mint attention Superintendent, Philadelphia, Pa. Enclose \$2.10 for each desired of the 1954 date, do not send personal check.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Could you please tell me something about this coin, or is it a coin? It appears to be hand made of silver. It has a hole in the letter (E.O.S.) which appears to have been drilled in later.

—Mrs. M. G., Indiana

Answer:

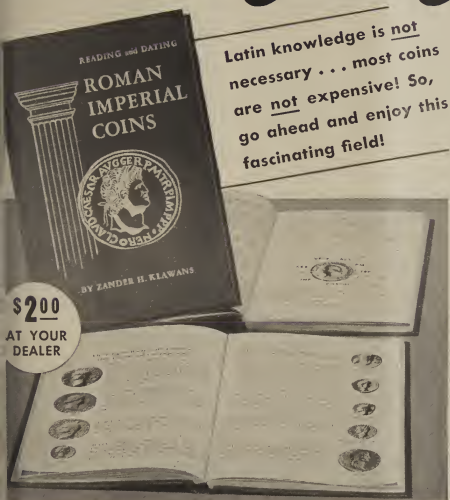
Your coin seems to be a large or broad Crown of Genoa, also sometimes known as a "Lira d'Argento". The hole, of course, hurts its value otherwise it would have been worth \$5.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have never seen Russian coins before 1655. Could you tell me where the Russians first started to mint their own coins, and what they were for currency before that. Also

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recently acquired a sixpence made by I. C. Chalmer of Annapolis, Md. Could you possibly tell me how many such six pence pieces survive to the present day.

—G. H., District of Columbia

Answer:

During the Middle Ages, Russia had as money irregular shaped crude silver wire money of very small size and rare ingots of silver and occasionally gold, but the first silver dollar sized coins appeared in the 17th century under Peter the Great. We must remember that Russia in those days was very backward and barter and trade were more popularly the rule.

No one knows how many Chalmers Annapolis sixpence there are at the present time, but very few were struck and they are a very rare coin. I note that the coin in good condition catalogs at \$75., and in fine condition \$150. One rarely sees this coin offered either in private sale or at Auction.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What is the value of this piece of paper money (sketch enclosed) I suppose even 116 years ago people were superstitious of two dollar bills. This one is on very thin paper and printed only on one side. Looks as if they were printed several to a sheet and then cut out with scissors or knife or whatever they used in those days. The message on the bill reads: "The Treasurer of the Republic of Texas will pay two dollars in promissory notes of the government when presented at the treas-

urers office in accordance with an Act of Congress passed Dec. 17, 1837, city of Houston, Meachre 7, 1838, W. H. Grimes, clerk, A. Bringhame, treas."

—Mrs. C. C. G., Pennsylvania

Answer:

The note is a trifle unusual for a broken bank bill of the times. Its value is about 25c in the condition described.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you kindly advise me the value of this coin? The Franklin penny, the first copper coin to be authorized by Congress 1787. On one side thirteen circles appear linked together, a small circle in the middle with the words "United States" around it and in the center "we are one," on the other side is a dial with the hours indicated, a meridian sun above it, on one side of which is the date 1787. Below the dial appears the Franklin phrase "mind your business."

—Mrs. W. E. M., Wisconsin

Answer:

The Fugio cent dated 1787 is worth about \$1. in good condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Would you please tell me if there is any value to this medal "The Lord's Prayer Medalet?" This facsimile presents the smallest space in which the Lord's Prayer was ever struck in metal. Made on the first steam coining press used by the U. S. mint in 1836.

—E. B., Pennsylvania

Answer:

The small medals coined by the steam presses are quite common and there are a good many of them around. Many have been quite popular in their day.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Please give me information on the following? Three half dollars, coined 1823, 1832, 1835. Each has thirteen stars, Liberty head and half dollar written around the edge. Three half dimes, coined 1865, 1867, and 1868; a three cent piece coined in 1852; three two cent pieces coined in 1864, 1865, 1866; large one-cent pieces coined 1798, 1802 with Liberty head with flowing hair; also three large one cent pieces Liberty head with hair up, coined 1848, 1852, 1853. These are all U. S. coins.

—Mrs. R. F. T., Missouri

Answer:

Your half dollars are worth 75c each. The half dimes 15c each; the three cent piece 5c; the two cent pieces 5c each. The Large cents of 1848, 1852, 1853 15c each. The 1798 cent 50c; 1802—40c. Prices quoted are for coins in "good" condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a few old coins I'd like to know if they have any value. \$5 gold coin 1907; \$1 silver coin 1882; 1

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OLD SHOES, boots, sandals, footwear, all nations; give age, history, photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooks, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

CANES: Must be unusual in design, material or history. Send photo or sketch. Describe fully.—B. W. Cooks, 33 Lakewood Dr., Glencoe, Ill. n12741

WANTED: OLD, unusual and foreign playing cards. Describe, price.—E. M. Salomonson, 6732 Newgard, Chicago 26, Illinois. o13272

WANTED: Boy's TOYS: Old trains, trolleys, wagons, automobiles.—Dr. Kowal, 1346 Cullerton, Chicago, Ill. n8844

PALMER COX MATERIAL WANTED: "Brownie" books, drawings, games, dolls, spoons, advertising novelties featuring "Brownies". Also Cox letters, photos, news items.—Graham Hunter, 41 Clonavor Road, West Orange, New Jersey. o1232

STEREOSCOPE VIEWS sought.—G. L. Howe, M. D., 924 Clover St., Rochester 10, N. Y. d3042

WANTED, Automobile items, anything pertaining to the Auto Era: car accessories, literature, also Americana catalogs that describe goods.—B. J. Pollard, 14500 Prairie, Detroit 38, Mich. n3233

ADVERTISING: Wanted old posters, circulars, invoices, correspondence, etc. Send for want list.—L. Warshaw, 752 Westend Ave., New York 26, N. Y. n3253

STEREOSCOPIC views wanted.—Arthur West, Commerce, Tex. n3081

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS WANTED.—Moore, 3746 Sheffield, Chicago. ap12344

LOTTERY tickets.—Whitlocks, New Haven, Conn. n369

FIRE MARKS and Insurance plates.—Whitlocks, New Haven, Conn. n3441

WANTED: Old railroad annual passes issued before 1910, anything pertaining to the old railroads of Colorado.—Koch, 115 Bryant Ave., New York 55, New York. o3004

FIRESIDE Industries wanted, building, labor, housing, friendly co-operation.—Perry, Briarhill 8, Pennsylvania. o3291

MAGIC: I buy all kinds of books, pamphlets, etc., relating to magic tricks before 1875. Also Memory.—Morris N. Young, MD., 170 Broadway, New York 38, N. Y. n3424

WANTED: Left handed mustache cup and saucer. Advise.—R. F. Mateer, 437 Perkinswood N. E., Warren, Ohio. o6445

OLD STAMPS Wanted. I will pay \$100.00 each for 1924 1c green Franklin stamps, rotary perforated eleven (up to \$1,000 ea. unused). Send 10c for large illustrated folders showing amazing prices paid for old stamps, coins, and collections.—Vernon Baker, (H-54) Elyria, Ohio. Advertiser in HOBBIES since 1931. d3867

CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE Veteran badges wanted.—H. C. Hill, 1208 Church, Flint, Mich. d12338

LETTERS, any lots before 1904, with or without covers. Also pamphlets.—Alvin Lohr, Conococheague, Hagerstown, Maryland. f6215

UNUSUAL IVORIES, bronzes, porcelain figures and plaques. Ben Feislinger, 249 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. s12698

SHAVING MUGS with picture, owners' occupation and name. Liberal prices.—Fred Patterson, P. O. Box 170, Atlanta, Georgia. o128801

WANTED: Old or unusual cameras. Will trade or sell my duplicates.—W. E. Musick, 12007 Yale, Chicago 28, Ill. mhl26121

WANTED: Cylindrical phonographs, parts, catalogs.—Nugent, 12 North 3rd, Richmond, Va. n6253

OLD POST CARDS: Will pay average \$2 to \$3 per 500 plus postage. Need old Valentines and greeting cards 1870-90 era.—Lyon Hobby Mart, Box 63, Hartford, Conn. n8984

CATALOGUES WANTED: Mason Decoy Factory or Stevens Decoy Factory or any other decoy catalogue prior to 1918.—C. Smith, P.O. Box 1367, Mobile, Alabama. o1002

WILL PAY CASH for cylinder phonographs, records, reproducers, parts, catalogs, literature and music boxes. Please describe and price. Write Pollard, 4109 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz, Calif. d3234

SCRAPBOOKS, paper dolls, post cards and other colorful paper material.—Connecticut Antiques, Pomfret Center, Conn. n3042

WANTED - LAFAYETTE - Any material relating to Lafayette such as china, letters, books, etc. Write full particulars.—Robert Conahay, 270 Park Ave., New York 17, N. Y. n3006

WANTED: Old letters, stampless or with stamps, before 1900; early valentines; autographs; documents; pamphlets: other Americana.—John W. Stine, 321 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. n3863

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ADVERTISING NOVELTY: Set 50 Sears, Roebuck stereotype cards with viewer, \$15.—C. Horton, West Sand Lake, N. Y. o1441

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FELT, 72" wide in brown, green black, maroon, etc., at \$3.75 yd. Used for lining drawers, tables, bases, etc. 25c per yd. extra for shipping.—F. J. Berman, 161 E. 53rd St., New York 22, N. Y. o3888

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PENCIL COLLECTORS! Large accumulation of gold, gold-filled and silver antique pencils. Approval shipments sent to collectors.—B. Lowe, World Bldg., St. Louis 1, Mo. d3293

SCOTTISH IMPORTS: Unique hand-carved horn brooches (supply limited) tarten purses, needle cases, Glenlivet bonnet pot holders, tobacco pouches, etc. \$1.00. Extraordinary values. Free list.—Highland Industries, Box 974, Oroville, Washington. c3084

GERMAN Cigarette Cards - Albums, Price list 3c. Military Uniform Books, Price list 3c.—Babin, 324 H Court, Rochester, New York. n3272

PASTEL PORTRAITS: After photographs by experienced, trained artist. Only imported materials used. Work guaranteed. Send small, clear photo, hair sample, coloring. Children a specialty. Bust, matted, \$25.00 Photo of work, 10c Anne Hardyman, Maysville, Ky. c3066

SMALL PITCHERS made of gourd, \$1 postpaid. — KUPEKRAFT, Chelsea, Iowa. d3061

FORMER DEALER has much pattern glass. will trade for Ribbed Pain pattern to complete table setting, or will buy, at dealer's prices. Perfect items only.—Alice Helen Glass, 1461 Glenview Rd., Glenview, Ill. c1002

VICTORIAN lace spread, matching shams, unused, \$12.50; Quilt, red-white, \$22.50; Embroidered Motto, "Forget Me Not", criss-cross frame, 13x26 overall, small imperfection, \$4; German Chocolate Pot, gold & floral trim \$8. Transportation additional.—Rigtoft 307 West Clinton, Indianapolis, Iowa. c1403

PARAKEETS, profitable hobby, read Parakeet Newspaper, Box 46, West Bend, Wis., 8 months \$1. c1021

FOR SALE: A good ox yoke all complete, 100 yrs. old, \$35.00—Wm. Schon, Pomeroy, Iowa. c3652

FOR SALE: Lawn Post Lights, 27 inches high overall, 13 inches square at top, 8 inches square at bottom. Has pagoda top, copper trim and wired. Price \$16.95 plus shipping charge. Send 10c for photo, refundable if ordered.—Colonial Craft Shoppe, R. F. D. #2, Bryan, Ohio. n3675

APPROXIMATE IN THOUSANDS:—1000 Stamps, 300 Covers, 400 Match Covers, average value, 100 each.—Beautiful colored picture travel folders, greeting cards, pictures, postcards, old checks, color and cloth samples, fancy special ads. 100 total about equally divided of: badges, buttons, small fancy bottles of toys, tools, useful gadgets, toilet articles, old penniment, coins, jewelry, fountain pens. 10 pieces of music. Large collection of wallpaper, ornaments, sporting goods, calendars, tags, antiques, rare old books, 20 quick seller magazines, 5 special magazines, 10 catalogues. Many other miscellaneous collections. ONLY \$3,000; Freight paid 2000 miles; 13 years old, complete collection; all in good condition and well bound. Few duplicates; 370 big boxes; guaranteed worth over \$20,000.—Ailyn T. Gleeves, Hillsboro Hotel, Jacksonville, Fla. c1259

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BITS OF HISTORY

Ry E. E. MEREDITH

Rev. Moses Tichnell, born in Preston County, W. Va., in 1807, died in Illinois May 23, 1876, was chairman of the Committee on Tobacco at a Methodist conference held at Fairmont, W. Va., and his report was so unusual that it has come down in history.

Instead of following the usual lines and depicting the evils of tobacco he read a labored description of the plant and told how it had spread over the world, and finally emphasized what "a solace and comfort it was to poor burdened humanity."

Rev. Tichnell was converted when fourteen years of age, licensed as a local preacher when but nineteen, and his itinerant career began in 1823 when he became of age. He was serving as district superintendent (then called presiding elder) in 1867 when he moved to Illinois for his health.

Mary Ludwig acquired the nickname of "Molly Pitcher" at the bat-

tle of Monmouth, N. J., by bringing pitchers of water to soldiers who called for "Molly Pitcher."

America's first professional woman author was Hannah Adams. Her first book, published in 1784, was called "Alphabetical Compendium of the Various Sects Which Have Appeared From the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Present Day."

Thomas Sheraton, famed furniture designer, endeared himself to fellow designers by publishing, in 1791, a series of volumes on furniture design for the trade. The books were a failure financially.

Tom turkeys 5 cents a pound, hens 4½ cents. Roosters \$1.50 a dozen, ducks \$1.75 a dozen. Those prices were advertised in Der Central Mis-sourier, a German language newspaper which turned up recently in Boonville, Mo. The date was June 11, 1891.

SWAPPERS

This department for swapping collector's items only. Rates 5c per word.

SWAP MATCH BOOKS, 25 for 50 alike, local ads only. Regular or odd sizes. Will buy collections.—Dr. Charles J. Riggs, 61 Carey Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. au120401

WILL EXCHANGE 25 match book covers, all different, for 50 of one kind. No used covers accepted or exchanged. Send 25c for catalog giving exchange values so that you can increase your collection by trading your duplicates.—Charles Edelman, 1311B E. 84, Cleveland 8, Ohio. n3851

MANY MUTUALLY beneficial swaps concluded through the years. Want to try one? Write!—John W. Stine, 821 Kingshighway, Edwardsville, Illinois. n3002

SOUVENIR SPOONS wants to buy, sell or trade. Albert H. Oechse, Dept. H-3, Jefferson City, Mo. c3071

CIGAR BAND collector will trade or bargain for obsolete accumulations. Write for details. Lot—A. Merrill, 15324 Evergreen, Detroit 23, Mich. c1001

GIVE QUALITY STAMPS for autographs, coins, phonograph records, sea shells, first day covers, world curios, curiosities.—Kaplan, 1110 Wyoming, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. c1001

SILHOUETTE ENTHUSIASTS! Large annotated bibliography of magazine articles on paper cutting, glass painting, shadow plays, movies, silhouette photography, silhouette collecting and appreciation. Will trade for silhouette post cards and prints or any hobby item worth \$1.—James A. Odell, RFD 4, Warren, Ohio. n3024

WILL GIVE 14 different foreign coins for 10 Indians.—Jolie, Box 19A, Rugby, Brooklyn 3, N. Y. n3061

Largest bird known to man was the giant roc, or elephant bird, of Madagascar.

A recent showing at the Art Institute of Chicago was organized to show the original creative work of contemporary American Indian artists. Included were the best examples of paintings by artists of practically all the tribes in the West, including the Apache, Pueblo, Navaho, Sioux, and Cherokee.

The purpose of this exhibition was to familiarize Americans with aspects of Indian culture which are now in so much danger of becoming lost under the impact of modern civilization. All of the paintings on exhibition derived from ancient Indian traditions, and included examples of sacred sand paintings, diverse kinds of dance rituals, symbolism of the tribe, and paintings depicting ceremonial rites.

This impressive art of the indigenous Indian was, fortunately, not only saved but encouraged to develop through the efforts of Kenneth Chapman, special consultant in Indian arts and crafts for the United States Government, and Dorothy Dunn, founder of the Department of Painting in the U. S. Indian School, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Chapman received from the Art Institute the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts last year, and Miss Dunn graduated from the School of the Art Institute about twenty years ago.

line 1885; two cent coin 1865; Indian head pennies 1883, 1887, 1888, 1892, 1899, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1908. Also a penny bank token man tanding in center (sketch enclosed).

—Mrs. J. M., Maine

Answer:

Your \$5.50 gold piece of 1907 is worth \$7.50; the silver dollar face value only; the dime 12c; the Indian head cents 2c each. The other coin is a Canadian token worth, 2c; 1c piece 5c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like some information about this coin. Enclosed you will find a tracing. On one side is a man's head and this lettering "FDHAPO: /E: THO: G: PDYIYTON: RHDI: VD: INI:" on the other side a man on a horse with sword in hand and a dragon, and the date 1401.

—Mrs. L. L. A., West Virginia

Answer:

The coin you have is a sovereign of Edward VII of England and is valued at \$7.50.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Kindly tell me the value of the following: 25c U. S. fractional bill signed Colby (Registered in good condition; English Festival of Britain five shilling, Queen Elizabeth five shilling, Queen Victoria one shilling, and a set of English money consisting of farthing, half penny, penny, three pence, sixpence, shilling, two shilling, and half a crown.

—G. H., New York

Answer:

There are several varieties of the fractional note you mention, but in good condition their premium is not so great, to demand good premiums they must be crisp, new. I regret my inability to value it without knowing which variety the note is. If it is the commonest, it is worth about 50c.

The Festival of Britain, and Queen Elizabeth crowns, if uncirculated and in their original cases, are valued retail at \$1.95 each. As to the English set, there are many and I would have to know what year yours is, if it is in the original case as sold, whether the coins are uncirculated or proof? If they are common used coins they only bring exchange value at the rate of \$2.80 per pound. But for instance, if the set was the Elizabeth coronation set in the original leatherette case they now retail for \$15.

—C. F., New York

Question:

In going through a collection of old coins, I found this medal. The side containing the lettering has been badly spoiled by the heat, and I can only make out a few letters. It is nearly a quarter of an inch thick and appears to be bronze. It has interested me greatly as I wondered why it was made, and how it came to be in this house in the

South. If you can tell me anything about it, I will be very grateful.

—Mrs. B. McD., Illinois

Answer:

The medal is indeed an interesting one, but it would be difficult to determine why or how it got into the South. Most likely some early French settler in the South brought it with him from the old country. The medal's legend seems to commend someone for his activities in the wars. Most likely a commemorative medal of some sort.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have listed the few coins I have and wonder if you would tell me of their value.

Mrs. K. M., Ohio

Answer:

Your coins are worth as follows: Dollar, 1882, face value; dollar, 1900, face value; 1833, 50c—75c; 1950, 50c, face value; Columbian half 1893, face value; 1845 cent, 15c; 1864, 2c—5c; 1865, 3c—5c; in good condition.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would like information on the coin which I describe below.

On one side are the words FRID. IIII, and the bust of a woman or possibly that of a man with very curly hair. On the reverse are the words VAN. GOT. REX and the date 1700. The "17" and the "00" are separated by a heart. The letters DAN are visible just before the date but the rest of that word is worn down. In the center of the reverse is a crown. Under the crown are the following letters: S (backward) D.M.A.S. I would like to know from what country this coin came from.

—D. H., Iowa

Answer:

The coin is from Denmark.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I am enclosing lead pencil impressions of a one cent piece. It is a little off center and appears like it was imperfectly struck by the die in the mint (date looks like 1946-S). If that is so, would it be valuable or not? This coin does not appear to be mutilated and has been in circulation since its issue and is in good condition.

—A. A., California

Answer:

It is not uncommon for an off center coin sometimes to slip by the inspectors at the mint, yours is not a very great freak, however. It is worth about 10c.

—C. F., New York



MONEY OF YESTERYEAR

(Continued from page 121)

be selling for twenty dollars, the 1951 is now selling for eight dollars and more, the 1952 at five to six dollars and the 1953 at three dollars and fifty cents. Collectors are frantically trying to complete these four and the current 1954 proof sets.

When people inquire of me regarding the value of coins in the Quiz Corner, they very frequently neglect to state the coins' condition. This may be due to a lack of knowledge in the classification of coins, but even if one does not know how to classify them, the detailed description of "used" or "badly worn," or "like new" will help me a great deal in accurately valuing such coins. When one does not specify condition I assume that the coin is in "good" condition, that is, worn, out of circulation, but a coin that shows all of the designs. This is the most common condition coins can be found in, and of course the valuations of such coins are much lower than if one had coins in brand new condition. That is why I stress that the condition should in all occasions be mentioned, for if I, for instance value a coin in "good" condition at say a dollar, it might be worth one hundred dollars if it happened to be a perfect gem uncirculated piece. The rule is pretty strict however and collectors very fussy, even the slightest tell-tale evidence of wear will place a coin out of this highly desirable stage. I have had people come to me and say that a certain coin was so near uncirculated nobody could tell, or such a slight amount of wear wouldn't hurt the coins value any, but it does, and no one can fool or kid an expert as to a coins exact condition, cleaning, or anything else will not replace wear no matter how little and it always can be detected.

Every coin collector should make himself an expert on condition, and adhere strictly to the rule, for it is too easy to just slightly overrate a coin's condition, and believe me this is done by both many collectors and dealers to a shocking degree. Not so long ago, I, a dealer, wrote five other dealers with whom I am personally acquainted, requesting a specific coin, and stating that the condition just had to be superb. Classified offerings were made to me of a series of pieces from all in "Extremely Fine" condition. You should have seen the coins, really good, very good, and one even cleverly repaired where it had been mutilated—They all were returned.

Books are keys to wisdom's
treasure;
Books are gates to lands
of pleasure;
Books are paths that
upward lead;
Books are friends. Come,
let us read.
—Emilie Poulsson

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\$3.95; 1892	
New Orleans Mint: 1881 \$4.95; 1882 \$6.95; 1883 \$3.45;	
1884	4.75
1885 \$4.95; 1889 \$6.95; 1900	4.95
Philadelphia Mint: 1878 7 feathers \$3.75; 8 feathers	4.75
1879, 1880, 1881, 1883 each \$2.35; 1886, 1887, 1893,	
each	4.95
1889, 1904, each	3.75
San Francisco Mint: 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882,	
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1922 \$1 Grant Plain (\$44)	—
1926 \$2.50 Sequi (\$10.50)	14.95
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Copper Frame (Paying \$1900) - In Leather Box	
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EMBER

1954

Hobbies

The Magazine For Collectors



EMPROIDRY OF GREECE
(See page 37)

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HOBBIES

The Magazine For Collectors

1006 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 5, Illinois

O. C. LIGHTNER, Founder (1887-1950)

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Chicago 5, Ill.

Mechanical Electrical and Scientific Antiques

Conducted by F. H. GRIFFITH

The Bowling Alley Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH

A very rare and much sought for mechanical bank occupies the 33rd position in our numerical classification of the mechanical banks. This is the Bowling Alley, a fragile and easily broken bank. Of course, this is probably the main factor contributing to its great rarity. Also it's very likely there were not too many of these banks manufactured.

The bank was patented by L. Kyser of Philadelphia, Pa., assignor to Kyser & Rex of the same city under Patent No. 222,058 dated November 25, 1879. It was manufactured, of course, by Kyser & Rex and the actual bank follows closely the design and mechanism as shown in the patent papers. Also, several old trade catalogs have turned up that picture and advertise the bank for sale.

The bank shown is from the very fine collection of

the late F. W. Wieder of Berkeley, Calif. He was an avid collector of mechanical banks and his great interest was shared by Mrs. Wieder who is keeping the entire collection intact. No items from the collection are available, and naturally Mrs. Wieder has a sentimental attachment towards the banks since she and her husband had a mutual interest in them. She has graciously cooperated so that we may give proper recognition to a fine mechanical bank, the Bowling Alley.

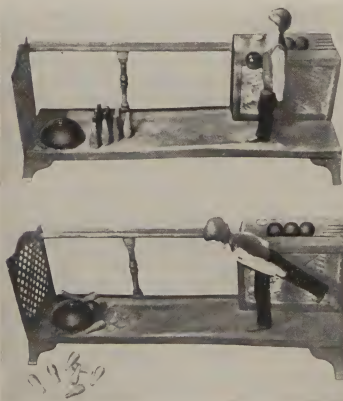
The background of the bank is rather interesting. It was originally found about 1938 by James Whitfill, a former antique dealer of Pittsburgh, Pa. It then found its way into the possession of a billiard hall proprietor in Washington, Pa., where it stayed for some years. A lot of effort was put forth by a number of collectors in trying to pry the bank loose and many trips were made to Washington, Pa., with no success. However, a few years ago Mr. Wieder finally became the successful owner of the bank and it found a home in a fine collection.

The bank is in good paint condition which was revealed after a proper amount of cleaning. There is more than an average amount of original paint on it. The main body of the bank is basically green with some black striping. The grill work is a faded orange and the designs on the coin box are painted blue, yellow and green, and the top is brown. The figure of the bowler has black trousers, blue vest, and a white shirt.

The bank is pictured before and during the action. In operation the top of the coin box has three different size slots to take the various size coins. On inserting a coin in one of the slots a lever is engaged which causes the man to lean forward. The bowling ball rolls from his right hand and continues down the alley striking the pins and ringing the bell. The man returns to position automatically and when another ball is placed in his hand and the pins replaced it is again ready for action. As with some of the other mechanical banks, a nice feature is the fact that the coin causes the action to occur.

The bank is in original condition with no repairs. The bell, the pins, and the bowling balls were missing when Mr. Wieder obtained the bank, but this was to be expected since after all the pins and the balls were separate items and very easily lost. A bell of the same size as the original was obtained from a Creed-smore Bank.

The Bowling Alley offers a real challenge to the mechanical bank collectors and so far there is only one of these banks known to exist in any private collection.



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n1403

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n8215

WANTED: Catalogs showing threshing machines and steam traction engines.—Vic Wintermantel, Bellevue, Pa.

n8802

ON TIME

(Continued from page 31)

being fitted with a platform type balance wheel and hairspring escapement. I do not know whether it is a lever or cylinder type escapement. It could be either.

The strike is controlled by rack and snail, which means that it could be a repeater. The dial has a silver finish and the hands are typical of the period.

The base of the clock is red marble banded with brass. The engine is of brass as is the arch. The clock is said to weigh about thirty-five pounds. It probably has a very fine movement in it.

One is continually amazed at the imagination of the old clockmakers and their efforts to disguise the simple functions of a clock.

J. W. Hickman of Decatur, Ill., recently sent me four fine photographs of a very old Wag-on-the-wall type of clock, which is a family heirloom. The clock is shown in the series of illustrations Nos. 4, 4a, 4b and 4c.

This clock is signed Jacob Henrichson or Henrichson, the latter being most probably correct. We find a Henrich listed as a clockmaker at Cologne in 1586. This clock, however, is a pendulum clock which makes it considerably later than that date. Since this clock would date between 1658 and 1700, it was, in all probability, made by a son or grandson of the original Jacob Henrich of Cologne.

Unfortunately we know little about this clock but I felt that the detailed photographs were of sufficient interest to show them here.

I hope to have some new arrivals from Europe for the next issue.

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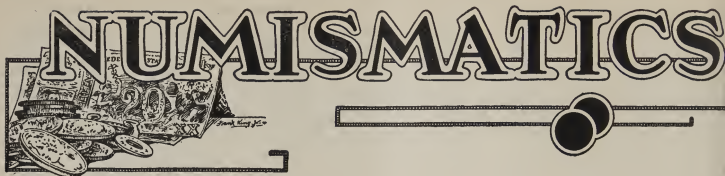
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Money of Yesteryear

By CHARLES FRENCH

It has been forty-five years since the Lincoln cent first made its appearance, and our laws dictate that no change in design of our regular coinage can be made sooner than every twenty-five years. Liberty Standing quarters were first coined in 1916 and this design was changed to the Washington quarter in 1932, before this law went into effect. Mercury dimes were first coined in 1916 and were changed to the Roosevelt dime in 1946. Buffalo nickels were first coined in 1913 and gave way to the Jefferson nickel in 1938, and the Liberty Standing half dollar, first coined in 1916, gave way to the Franklin half in 1948. Therefore the cent is the only one that has not been changed. It is due for a change. The trend in design has been to honor our past great presidents, Jefferson on the nickel, Roosevelt on the dime, Washington on the quarter and Franklin on the half. It is difficult to ascertain who would go on the cent that possibly could replace Lincoln and this may mean that He will continue to appear for some time. It might even be that a newly designed coin of more modern design appear with Lincoln upon it again. Only time will tell.

With the appearance of a newly designed coin there are frequently rumors of errors and other items that draw attention to the coin and make people search their pockets for some fictitious rarity. When the Jefferson nickel first appeared a well known news commentator broadcast that a rarity had been created and that the original coins had a flagpole on top of Monticello, Jefferson's home represented on the reverse of the nickel. This commentator also stated that the flagpole had been removed after a few coins were struck and that very few with the flagpole got into circulation. The hunt for the flagpoled nickels immediately began throughout the nation. My phone as well as many dealers rang con-

stantly inquiring about the flagpole nickel, so much so that to end completely the story we wrote the Superintendent of the Mint to inquire about it, and received an official denial of any such pole ever having been on any nickel. It took over a year for that rumor to subside.

In 1883 the new Liberty Nickels first appeared and the first type did not have the word "cents" on the reverse, just a letter "c" for 5. Some unscrupulous people quickly gold plated them and began passing them as five dollar gold pieces of a new design. It took some time to rectify the error but towards the end of the year of 1883 the nickel was changed by adding the word "cents" to stop this gold plating practice. Rumor got out that the 1883 nickels without the word cents would be rare and I guess everyone saved all they could get their hands on. In fact, so many were saved that even today one comes across 1883 nickels without the word cents in practically brand new condition in circulation. The funny thing about the year, however, was that the nickel with the word cents is a little scarcer than the one without, and these nickels were saved all these years to no avail.

With the appearance of the Lincoln cent in 1909, the large use of mint marks in a prominent position, first came into practice. The Ds and Ss for the branch mints appearing just below the date. It was not long until rumor was passed about that if you could get four cents with the letters FORD under the date and send the four cents to Henry Ford, you would receive a brand new Ford car. Thousands of people searched vainly for those four letters. It was easy for them to get the D for the Denver Mint Mark but none of the other letters, for the non collecting public never stopped to realize that those

letters never were put on the coin in the first place.

This same or similar story has recently come to light again. Right now thousands of people are looking for the bronze or copper cent of the year, 1943, the year during the war when the mint only turned out zinc coated steel cents. True there is a slight possibility that because of a very few might have been struck in bronze or with the metal used for the 1942 cents, but they would come under the category of freaks. The mint does not list the coinage of any 1943 cents other than the steel ones. The rumor persists though — if you find a bronze or copper one, you will be able to get a Ford car for it. But none state where the car can be gotten. This rumor has caused some people to copper plate the steel cents to make them look like a bronze one, but this is easily discernable as the steel cent do not ring where real bronze one would, and if you come across a bronze 1943 bang it on the table, it does not ring you may be sure that it is a steel cent that has been copper plated.

In 1907 St. Gaudens new design for the Gold coins was adopted and was soon began to get new twenty dollar, one dollar, five dollar and two and one half dollar gold pieces. They were very, very beautiful coins, particularly the tens and twenties. The first twenties were of a very high medallic type of design and it was not long before rumor had it that the coins would not stack; in other words one could not pile one on top of another to any degree because the design was so high it would make the stack tip over. This was undesirable for it was the custom in banks to stack their coins. A good many complaints came in, particularly about the St. Gaudens High Relief twenties and during the year the relief was lowered and the coins made to stack. Rumor had it that the earlier ones

with the Roman numeral dates and high relief would be rare, and for one such a rumor was correct for today these St. Gaudens high relief double eagles are worth a great deal more than their brothers. President Theodore Roosevelt was responsible for the adoption of the St. Gaudens designs, and the first coins appeared without our well known motto "In God We Trust." This caused a furore throughout the country and in 1908, when Taft came into office the motto was added. The 1908 twenties with and without the motto are worth approximately the same amount today.

When our Peace dollars first came out in 1921, they underwent criticism. It was said that the 1921 series would not stack and it is true that they do not stack well, for their edge is slightly rounded. From 1922 on, one will find that the edge is flatter and that the dollars stack well. There were other criticisms of this dollar also. Some said it was a pacifist's coin with the word peace upon it and that the eagle looked like a dove of peace, more than an eagle. For a time this was considered to be a commemorative coin, but its constant issue has taken it out of this category. When the Franklin half dollar appeared in 1948 it was first thought to be a commemorative coin due to Benjamin Franklin's bust and the Liberty bell on the reverse but this is not so, it is a regular issue coin. Commemorative coins are usually issued through commissions and premium is charged for them when the first issue, the Peace dollars and the Franklin halves were issued through regular channels at face value.

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We are all familiar with the Confederate States paper money for a good deal of this was printed to finance the Civil War for the South. Confederate coins are a different story, however, for they are very rare. The half dollar, of which only four were originally struck at the New Orleans mint in 1861. A. H. M. Patterson, designed the reverse of the (Continued on page 121)

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PAUL SLOSSON

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QUIZ CORNER

By CHARLES FRENCH

Coin questions answered gratis. If you wish reply by mail, enclose 10c to defray costs. Do not mail us coins in question, please.

I wonder if you can tell me what sort of a coin these tracings are, and if it has any value.

—Mrs. B. K., Maine

Answer:

The coin you have is a small bronze coin of Portugal. Value about 25c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I have a Liberty one cent piece, but the date is completely obliterated. It is in very poor condition and I know it has no value but I would like to know the approximate age of the coin. Could you tell me during what years such a piece was coined? I would also like to know if an 1865 three-cent piece has any value. It has a Liberty head on the face with the date and "United States of America" on the other side is a large Roman numeral III surrounded by a wreath. It is in fair condition.

—Mrs. E. D. Ohio

Answer:

Your 1865 three-cent piece in good condition is worth 5c, as to the Liberty head cent, these were coined, with various Liberty heads from 1793 through 1857.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Will you please tell me where these dollars "rubblings" enclosed were minted and why. I should also like to know their probable value.

—Mrs. L. S., Colorado

Answer:

These coins are what is known as pattern trail and experimental pieces, and were coined at the Philadelphia mint. They are known as "Goidis" or "metric" coins of designs that were proposed but never adopted for regular use. They are quite scarce. Both of your coins have been struck in silver, white metal, copper and aluminum and their metal determines their value.

—C. F., New York

Question:

I would appreciate some information on the one dollar currency series 1917. They were called in, due to some printing reason. Frank White was U.S. treasurer at the time.

—Mrs. C. E. S., California

Answer:

I know of no record of any bills of a certain series having been called in. The 1917 dollar, however, in Crisp new condition is worth \$1.75.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Does this coin have any value other than as a collection piece, such as a special year of mint. It is a 2½ dollar gold piece in very good condition of 1836. Does the dash mark above the 2½ D, signify a mint mark? Does this 3 cent 1865 piece have any value?

—E. N. B., North Carolina

Answer:

The dash or whatever it is over the date has no significance, most likely it is a die break of some sort. The coin you have is a two and one half dollar gold piece and seems, from the rubbing to be in very fine condition. As such it is worth \$6.50. The 1865 three cent piece is very common being worth about 10c.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What should I do about disposing of the following two coins? The first one is a large commemorative coin, which I presume is real silver, two inches in diameter and almost three-sixteenth inches thick; the weight is just over two ounces. There is considerable wording on both sides in Spanish as the medal was gotten out to honor civil engineer Henry Meiggs who built at least one railroad lines across the Andes Mountains in South America. One side of the medal shows the mountain in the background and a unique old fashioned train in the foreground.

The other piece makes a person think a great deal of our present day copper pennies. We believe it is a bridge token issued by the Troy and West Troy Bridge Company for one vehicle and two horses. One side shows a wreath at the top of which is an anchor and at the bottom crossed cannons and in the center is the date 1863. On the reverse side is a casting of the gun boat Monitor and the words "Our Little Monitor."

—P. C. F., Vermont

Answer:

Your first piece is not a coin but a medal and not of great Numismatic value. It could be silver, nickel or white metal. If it is silver, a mark indicating this will be found on the edge. Its value would range from 50c to \$5 depending upon condition and metal.

The second piece is one of the many thousand merchants, transportation or Civil War tokens and worth around 10c.

C. F., New York



Question:

I am sending you two rubbings of a coin or metal I do not know anything about. It is in fine condition. Please tell me its age and value if any.

—Mrs. H. H., Minnesota

Answer:

The item you have is not a coin but a medal for India of Edward the VII.

—C. F., New York

Question:

What is the value of this coin I am describing below. Carolus 111 D E L-G.R.A.T.I.A. 1797 (face side) on the reverse HISPAN-ET-INDI REXDM-8-R-F-M. It is probably Spanish.

—Mrs. N. O. J., Wisconsin

Answer:

The coin you have is a Spanish real piece of Charles IV and struck at the Mexico City mint. As such in fine condition it is worth \$2.00.

If you will send the coins you have to sell to us we shall look them over and make you our offer.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Can you possibly tell me something of this coin or medal (penny imprint enclosed) which I have my possession. This coin is obviously French, with the following inscription on the face: LUD. XVI. D. FR. ET NAV REX. On the reverse side SIT NOMEN DOMINI T. BE. EDICTUM 1791 and on the edge the coin SALVUM FAC REGEM DOMINIE.

—J. C. T., New Jersey

Answer:

The coin you have is a silver Edict of Louis XVI of France and is valued at about \$2.00.

—C. F., New York

Question:

Kindly inform me if any of the following coins which I have wanted by the rare coin dealers where I can get a copy of a book with such coins listed. I have the following coins with dates, token James Monroe Doctrine 1817-1825, token inscribed "not one cent for tribute" millions for defense 1837, dime 1863 nickel 1904, penny 1914, large penny 1872.

—Mrs. H. B., Pennsylvania

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